



NEW PLAY ABOUT EVIL CHILD KILLER

REPORT BY CARL JACKSON

CHILD killer Raymond Morris who raped and murdered a seven-year-old girl before dumping her body on Cannock Chase is the subject of a new play.

The notorious figure, who lived in Walsall, was jailed for killing Christine Darby and was also the prime suspect in the killings of Margaret Reynolds, aged six from Aston, and Diane Tift, five, of Bloxwich.

Now former teacher Peter Sidgwick has written a play centred on the horrific events of the 1960s.

And he says the audience will be left to make up their own minds as to whether they believe Morris was indeed culpable of the murders of little Margaret and Diane.

The 70-year-old from Hednesford has based much of the production on a book called *The Cannock Chase*

Killer - Morris

Murders by Pat Molloy, a former detective in the case, and his own research.

His play, called *Morris: The Cannock Chase Murderer*, has taken around two years to put together and is set to be performed by his group *The Tower Players* at the Prince of Wales Theatre in Cannock next May.

Mr Sidgwick revealed it starts in the present based in a pub where a former officer on the case Maureen Freeman, who is now a member of Cannock Chase District Council, is talking about the case.

He added: "It is a fascinating piece of work for a number of reasons. Firstly there was no DNA available to police or it certainly wasn't like it was today."

"The police's computer systems were pretty primitive and they had a devil of a job and a lot of luck."

"We try and do stuff in Cannock about Cannock for Cannock people to find out more about their own area. Because it was such a notorious case I thought it was worthy of presentation."

He confirmed there would be no child actors in the play and their parts would simply be portrayed by voice overs.

He has invited any relatives of the victims to contact him and read the script before the play is staged.

Morris spent 45 years in prison and died behind bars at HMP Preston in 2014, aged 84.

FEARS OVER WARRANTIES AS DEALERSHIP SHUTS



Chase Car Sales has been boarded up, with all of the vehicles removed from the lot

A CAR dealership in Hednesford has suddenly shut, leaving customers fearing that their warranties are now useless.

Chase Car Sales has been boarded up, with all of the vehicles removed from the lot.

The website for the business, which has been in the town for about 20 years, is also offline, and the company is listed on the internet as 'permanently closed'. But mystery surrounds the closure, and customers have been left wondering what they can do if their vehicle needs a repair in the warranty period.

Diane Northall, aged 57, from Tamworth, said her daughter Frankie Nevitt, 20, has been left devastated after buying her first ever car - a Vauxhall Antara for £7,000 - from

the business, only for the starter motor to fail two days later. She said: "We went back, and it was all boarded up. We couldn't believe it. My daughter is really, really upset."

"It was a lot of money. She needs a car for work. The repair has been priced just under £700. We had a three-month warranty and it definitely would have been covered but the warranty doesn't exist now. It is really quite heartbreaking."

Ms Northall said the company they took out finance with has offered to cover the repair but she feared for others who may not be so lucky and left out of pocket. She added: "When we were there, there were lots of cars, there was even a Christmas tree up in the of-

fice, it did not seem as if it was about to close. I know there has been a lot of upset about this."

Councillor Alan Pearson, who represents Hednesford North on Cannock Chase Council, said: "It is a shame. We had such a good car sales business there with a lot of customers, and now it is another building which is empty. It is a mystery. One minute it was full of cars, then overnight they were all gone."

"If I had just bought a new car from there, I would be worried about my warranty."

No-one at Chase Car Sales was available to comment on the closure.

Anyone with concerns about their warranty should call Citizens Advice on 03454 04 05 06.

CARE

Nursing home is put in special measures

A NURSING home that took in residents who feared for their safety at another facility has been placed in special measures.

The providers shut down Vicarage Court care home, in Chasetown, in September after a Care Quality Commission inspection deemed it was not safe. Residents were moved to other homes including the company's nursing facility The Old Vicarage, which is on the same site.

Now, that nursing home has also been given an 'inadequate' rating by the health watchdog. The owners of the home were unavailable for comment.

AWARD

Renovation work earns accolade

A RENOVATION scheme in Hednesford has been highly commended in the Landscape Institute's 2017 awards.

The accolade in the heritage and conservation category was handed out to the town's war memorial restoration project. Judges described it as a 'precise and meticulous restoration of a Staffordshire-based site that improved both accessibility and quality'.

● Sound work - Page 16

ACCIDENT

Van rolls four times near roundabout

A MAN was taken to hospital after his van rolled over four times near a traffic island.

The incident, which also saw the van collide with a car, happened at 2.30pm on on Friday in Eastern Way, Cannock, near the Renault garage and Churchbridge island.

A man in his 30s freed himself from the van but was taken to County Hospital suffering back pain. Two people in the car escaped serious injury.

INSIDE

FESTIVE FUN AT MUSEUM



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Ribbon cut at new-look care home



The ribbon-cutting ceremony

A CENTRE offering support, advice and companionship for elderly people suffering with disabilities or dementia has opened its doors.

Councillor Johnny McMahon officially cut the ribbon at Havenly Day Care Centre in Heath Hayes, which has recently been renovated. He was joined by Councillor Phil Hewitt, Councillor Bryan Jones and community partnership officer Graham Hunt from Staffordshire County Council.

Centre manager Hema Mungroo, who has more than 30 years' experience in the care sector, said: "Respect,

dignity, choice and independence are at the heart of the services we aim to offer our residents.

"The centre will provide day care and a wide range of services for older people including help and support for those with disabilities, Alzheimer's and dementia.

"We want to make a difference to our clients by offering support, advice and companionship in a safe and friendly atmosphere.

"The centre offers fine food and organises entertainment and activities that keeps our elderly people on the

go and they feel safe being here rather than being lonely at home."

Havenly Day Care Centre works closely with a number of associations including the Dementia Action Alliance and the MASE (Monthly Alzheimer's Support Evening) group.

The centre will open Monday to Friday, 9am to 3pm.

● **Pictured from left are Graham Hunt from Staffordshire County Council, Councillor Bryan Jones, Mrs Hema Mungroo, Councillor Johnny McMahon, Mr Roger Mungroo and Councillor Phil Hewitt**

£3m roads funding to ease the pain of HS2

A £3 MILLION cash pot has been secured to improve road safety along the HS2 route in Staffordshire.

The money will be available for projects, including cycle schemes, to mitigate the severe impact of phase one.

Work will churn up 12 miles of land in the county from Lichfield to Handsacre where the spur will be built linking to Stafford railway station via the West Coast Main Line.

Some surrounding roads are set to see a huge increase in HGV traffic, such as the A515 Lichfield Road which is expected to see 92 lorry journeys every hour.

The work will also affect the county's canals, with the route running close to the Trent & Mersey Canal.

Available

The money has been awarded by the Government to Staffordshire County Council and is available to spend until 2026.

Lichfield District Councillor Richard Cox, who represents Armitage and Handsacre, said some of funds should be used to widen the B5014, but questioned whether that would happen.

"I think this is false money, which will never materialise," the Tory councillor said.

"I have deeply opposed the whole project. It has been a complete waste of money, and this just sounds like the Government throwing sweeteners at the [county] council, who should not be getting into bed with them. If we were to put cycle paths and footpaths on the B5014 I would be grateful and I would welcome the money if it was going to benefit Armitage and Handsacre but I suspect it won't because, to HS2, Handsacre does not matter.

"We are completely blighted for



Work will churn up 12 miles of land, causing disruption to main roads such as the A515 as well as the Trent & Mersey Canal

a spur joining the West Coast Main Line which is totally unnecessary. I am a Conservative and I think the Government is completely bonkers with HS2."

Phase one has already been given Royal Assent, while Phase Two, which passes through a further 33 miles of Staffordshire land, is still going through Parliament.

Councillor Mark Winnington, the

county council's HS2 boss, said: "The high-speed rail line will run through 45 miles of Staffordshire in total, and from the outset we have been committed to getting the best deal for Staffordshire and our communities in terms of mitigation, compensation, access to faster journeys via the Stafford HS2 hub and a share in the jobs and wider economic benefits.

"The HS2 project is likely to be the

biggest national transport scheme we will see delivered in our life time. The impact of the construction and operation will be significant in the coming years, so I am pleased this fund will allow us to invest in schemes which will help keep our roads even safer for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

"We will work with both communities and HS2 to prioritise those schemes in the Phase One area."

Wolves top of football ban orders list for year

Wolves fans were issued with more football banning orders in the last year than supporters of any other club in England and Wales, figures released by the Home Office show.

Between August 2016 and July this year, 32 orders were made barring Wolves fans from matches – up from 21 for the previous 12 months.

And as of August 7, a total of 75 banning orders were in force against the club's fans – the second highest total in the country behind Newcastle United.

In terms of new orders made in the last year, 18 were issued against Birmingham City fans, up from 13 the year before; 11 against Aston Villa fans, up from six; three for Walsall fans, compared with four a year earlier; and none were made against West Bromwich Albion supporters, down from seven during the previous season.

The total number of banning orders in force for each of the clubs' supporters stand at 41 against Blues fans, 31 against Villa fans, 30 against Walsall fans and 16 against fans of The Baggies.

Wolves head of operations Steve Sutton, said: "The orders have served to reduce disorder at Molineux.

Newcastle fans topped the list of total banning orders for the third consecutive year, with 111 against supporters, a decrease from 124 the previous year.

£10,000 goods go in two raids

MORE than £10,000 worth of goods were stolen during two raids in the same night.

Both incidents happened between last Monday night and the early hours in the South Staffordshire area.

A container in Micklewood Lane, Penkridge, was broken into and thieves got away with a £6,000 haul including fishing tackle, generators, chainsaws and hedge cutters.

And in Lawn Lane, Coven, a 16ft-long twin-axle Bateson trailer worth up to £5,000 was stolen.

It was carrying a large, yellow chemical-storage box and a black toolbox.

Anyone with information should contact Staffordshire Police on 101 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111 or via the website.

Invite to Sappers

THE Cannock branch of the Royal Engineers Association hold their branch meeting on Tuesday at 8pm at the Drill Hall (Army Reserve Centre), in Walsall Road, Bridgtown. All Sappers both past and present are welcome to attend. For further information call 01543 423319.

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Shugborough applies to give trees the chop

MORE than 40 trees at Shugborough are set to be chopped down.

The National Trust, which runs the estate, has applied to fell 30 trees that made up a former Christmas tree farm but were never harvested.

And an application has been submitted to fell a dozen trees in the Tower of the Winds and Thomas Wyatt's Park Farm.

The application to axe 30 trees is the first stage of a project to restore gardens at the estate, which was taken over by the National Trust in October 2016.

It involves removing Norway spruce and horse chestnut trees in the Grade II walled garden, which has been 'abandoned for many years'.

The trust intends to turn the gardens into an orchard after the trees have been taken out and the whole area grass seeded and maintained.

In its application the trust argues that cutting down the trees will improve the presentation, access and long-term conservation of the yew 'hedge', peach house and walls in the South East Walled Garden.

The trees in the second application are holy crown, holly, birch, and sycamore, which will be replaced with yew, holly, lime, beech, Portuguese laurel.

● A carol service will be held in the Midden Yard at Shugborough Estate on December 8 from 7.30 to 8.30pm.

Record interest in joining 999 crews

A RECRUITMENT campaign to find paramedics of the future is likely to set records for the level of interest.

More than 21,000 people viewed the job description and specification after West Midlands Ambulance Service invited applications. There have now been more than 1,000 people apply.

Louise Harris, recruitment manager at the West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust, said: "After the success of television programmes like Ambulance, 999 On The Frontline and Inside the Ambulance, the service, particularly in the West Midlands, has never been so high-profile. There is no doubt that we have seen a huge level of interest in the role of paramedic and also those staff who work in our control rooms."

Church challenge

THE Church of the Holy Spirit in Rugeley is holding a Christmas Cheer Challenge on Saturday midday to 4pm when there will be an attempt to make over 300 cards to send to the Ronald McDonald House charities.

Man dies after six-vehicle collision



A460 Lodge Lane Picture: Google Street View

A MAN died following an accident involving five cars and a lorry on a busy road near Cannock.

The 33-year-old was driving one of the cars in the crash, which happened at 6.50pm last Wednesday on the A460 Lodge Lane.

The man was resuscitated by police and paramedics at the roadside, but later died after being taken in a critical condition to Royal Stoke University Hospital.

A man in his 60s, who was driving another car, suffered chest pain and was given treatment at the scene

before being taken to Walsall Manor Hospital.

Two other drivers, including the man behind the wheel of the lorry, were assessed and discharged at the scene.

Staffordshire Police said the victim's family are being supported by specially trained officers. A spokesman for the force has appealed for information, witnesses and anyone with any dashboard camera footage of the incident to come forward.

Three ambulances, a paramedic support officer, a trauma doctor and

a Midlands Air Ambulance doctor attended the scene.

A West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman said: "During the 999 call, the call assessor was told that police officers were performing CPR on a patient involved in the collision."

"When ambulance staff arrived at the incident they found police colleagues administering excellent CPR to the driver of one car, a man, who was in cardiac arrest. Ambulance staff and the doctors quickly took over resuscitation efforts."

Seeing red as dozens of phone booths face axe

MORE than 100 telephone kiosks are facing the axe throughout the Midlands.

Figures show that in Wolverhampton 11 are set to face the chop, while 18 in Dudley, 14 in Sandwell, and 17 each across the South Staffordshire and Wyre Forest districts are under threat. And 60 could be removed in Shropshire.



Phone boxes are at risk

Telephone booths still handle 33,000 calls a day throughout the country, but BT is planning to remove around 20,000 of them in the next five years. BT says the increasing popularity of mobile phones is making kiosks redundant.

However, the telecoms provider must inform the public and consult with the local authorities if they plan to shut them down. Councils then have 90 days to object, which is known as a 'local veto'.

The Wolverhampton Liberal Democrats are calling on councils to use this veto to protect the phone boxes.

They say the booths are still used by children, the elderly, people who can't afford mobile phones, and in cases of emergency when phone batteries go flat.

Campaigner Paul Butters said: "I'm really seeing red over these plans to axe something vital from our streets. The Liberal Democrats are demanding that local councils write to BT to say that they will veto every single phone box closure in their area."

A BT spokesman said: "BT is committed to providing a public payphone service, but with usage declining by over 90 per cent in the last decade, we continue to review and remove payphones which are no longer used."

Out of the 40,000 booths still working nationwide, 7,000 are the traditional red boxes designed in 1935 to commemorate the silver jubilee of King George V. More than half of phone boxes lose money, and the number of calls is declining by over 20 per cent per year.



Nicola Bannister as Mrs Christmas and Lisa Kemp as an Elf at The Museum of Cannock Chase

Museum prepared for festive season

IT'S beginning to look a lot like Christmas at The Museum of Cannock Chase.

There is going to be a traditional Christmas gathering, a look at the festive season through the ages, elves, Mrs Christmas and the chance to immerse the family in an exclusive interactive experience that will bring it all to life.

The team at the museum are busy putting the final touches to a fun-packed Yuletide programme.

It all starts on Sunday, with the Christmas Family Fun Day between midday and 4pm. "It's always a real favourite with the local community," visitor services officer Rachel Gentle said.

And for the first time ever, the museum will be hosting a Christmas Wishes for Families Day on Saturday, December 16.

For information on these events call the museum on 01543 877666 or visit www.museumofcannockchase.org

NEWS IN BRIEF

County to take in 50 more refugees

STAFFORDSHIRE is to take in 50 more Syrian refugees in 2018.

It comes following the successful resettlement of 51 people in the county from the war-torn nation in 2016-17.

Staffordshire County Council said all individuals would arrive in families, while the number of new arrivals per district has not been confirmed.

Communities chief Councillor Gill Heath said: "All the refugee families are fleeing a terrible civil war which has shattered their country's economy, education system and healthcare infrastructure."

"I'm proud of how communities have worked closely together so far."

Towers could stay three more years

THE iconic cooling towers at Rugeley Power Station could remain in place for nearly three years.

It was hoped demolition may start this year but owner Engie is still in the process of hiring a demolition contractor while saying the towers would be among the last structures at the complex to be removed.

A spokesman for the company said: "The demolition programme will last nearly three years with the cooling towers being towards the end of the timeline." The power station shut down in June last year.

£90,000 funding to tackle abuse

LICHFIELD District Council and Tamworth Borough Council have secured more than £90,000 in government funding to provide more tailored support to the growing numbers of domestic abuse victims who have additional or complex needs.

A total of £92,600 has been awarded by the Department for Communities and Local Government to improve services to victims of domestic abuse who need extra help with issues such as substance misuse, mental health problems or disabilities, and those from minority communities.

Schools to entertain at town's switch-on

STALLS, rides, entertainment and Santa Claus – a packed night is promised for this year's Christmas Lights Switch-on in Hednesford.

Market Street will be closed from 1pm until 8pm tomorrow (Friday) to make way for the market stalls and rides.

The event begins at 5pm in the centre, with local schools helping to provide the entertainment to get everyone in a festive mood.

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COUNTY NEWS

Search on for best bus drivers

THE search is on to recognise the region's best bus drivers. Arriva wants to say a huge thank you to the bus drivers who provide such a vital service to passengers in the Black Country and Staffordshire.

The annual Made A Difference (M.A.D) awards aim to celebrate the work done by Arriva staff and thank individuals for their hard work.

If nominated, your local bus driver could be invited to a glamorous gala dinner to find Arriva's Bus Driver of the Year. To nominate, visit www.arrivabus.co.uk/doty, with the first round of nominations closing on Friday December 15.

Big otter-tunity to join wildlife study

A WILDLIFE trust is looking for volunteer otter spotters to help survey the River Stour.

Hannah Lewis, from the Birmingham and the Black Country trust, recently discovered signs of otters at a housing development. It is the first time signs of otters have been spotted at the location. Now the Trust wants to survey the river to see where otter populations are thriving to get an idea of which parts of the Stour are in good health – and which are not.

Anyone who wishes to volunteer to become an otter spotter across various locations on the River Stour can call Hannah on 0121 523 0094.

Foreigner foray for blues star Jo

BLACK Country blues star Joanne Shaw Taylor is set to support rock icons Foreigner on their upcoming UK tour. She will also be joined by artist John Parr at Birmingham's Symphony Hall on May 15.

The artist is also set to headline the Saturday of Planet Rockstock in Trecco Bay on December 2.

The Wednesbury-born guitarist will appear alongside the likes of Monster Truck, Dan Reed Network, King King and Thunder.

Toolstation branch opens for business

TOOLSTATION has announced the opening of a new branch in the West Midlands.

The new Toolstation is at Unit 2, Ionic Business Park, Birmingham New Road, Dudley. It is open for business seven days a week, from 7am to 7pm Monday to Saturday and 9am to 4pm Sundays. Previously located in Great Bridge, all business and employees transferred to Dudley.



1. Tink often stops to say hello to Bob the goldfish



2. Teddy's confused between a dovecote and a dove cat



3. African pygmy hedgehog Flossy in her woolly nest



4. Bear loves to bite toes and chase around the garden



5. Tortoise Fred lives in the garden and just loves eating buttercups on the lawn



6. Bags of room in here – Benji finds this is a comfortable place to bed down



7. Together – four-year-old guinea pigs Billy and Tom share a very special bond



8. Reeves and Mortimer who were always up to mischief when they were kittens



9. Olaf the rabbit was found in a carrier bag in a tree. Here he is with best friend Anya



10. Milo, a Staffie cross, came from the Dogs Trust and loves doing agility tricks

YOUR TIME TO VOTE

WELL the time has come for you readers to have your say.

For weeks we have been bombarded by lovely pictures of your treasured pets – and we thank everyone for taking the time to send in all the wonderful entries.

We have already carried some of the entries in our weekly pets competition page throughout all our seven editions.

There was so much choice it was difficult for us to pick out the final 10 for the shortlist.

Variety

All of them so cute and obviously so loved. The pride shone through in the emails we received – some sending in more than one picture of their special pet.

The variety of pets has been huge – lots of cats and dogs, turtles, ponies, hamsters, tortoise etc. Noah could have filled his ark several times over!

But now it is decision time. On the right is the voting form with all the details our readers need to let us know which is their favourite.

We will carry the pictures again next week and the winner will be announced next month with the best-loved picture carried on the front of our

To vote for your favourite photograph either email the picture number to sue.alfwater@expressandstar.co.uk or tick one box on this form and send it to Sue Alfwater, The Chronicle, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

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PICTURE 5 <input type="checkbox"/>	PICTURE 10 <input type="checkbox"/>

Christmas editions. And the winner will also receive a £100 cash prize.

We are not just looking for the cutest pet – although some are very difficult to resist – but the best picture itself, one that you would pick out if you saw it in the paper.

So look closely at the 10 shortlisted pictures and choose the one you think deserves the prize.

We will be counting up the votes after the second week of running the shortlist. Entries must be in by Monday, December 12.

This is your chance to have your say!

Watchdog hits back over cuts to funding

PROPOSALS to revamp a service that champions people's health rights have been branded 'short-sighted'.

Following a consultation earlier this year on Healthwatch Staffordshire, the county council is looking to reshape the contract for the service.

The aim of the revamp is to 'improve and join up existing services', as well as continuing to give residents a voice on health and social care.

But in view of plans to cut the county's Healthwatch budget from £415,000 to £210,000 the watchdog is urging the council to provide 'realistic funding' to give the people of Staffordshire the voice they need to influence the big decisions.

Jane Mordue, chair of Healthwatch England, said: "These short-sighted proposals would be of concern to any community, but the people of Staffordshire will be only too aware of what can happen when patients have no way of voicing concerns."

"The majority of councils have recognised the value Healthwatch brings by choosing to avoid cuts of this size as they struggle with their own financial pressures."

Councils are legally required to provide an independent Healthwatch service to ensure local people's voices are heard.

Councillor Alan White, deputy leader and cabinet member for health, care and wellbeing, said: "As the contract for Healthwatch is up for renewal, we have taken the opportunity to reshape the service and look at what works well, and what can be done better."

The new-look service is expected to go live in April.

Funeral of war veteran Daisy May

THE funeral of a Second World War veteran who was among the early volunteers to join the newly formed Women's Auxiliary Air Force (WAAF) will take place next week.

Chadsmoor-born Daisy May Rotchell (nee Belcher), a life member of the Cannock Chase (573) Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association (RAFA), died at the care home where she lived, aged 95. RAFA members, both RAF and WAAF, will form a guard of honour at the funeral at Stafford Crematorium on Monday at 11.20am.

RAFA branch chairman Brian Gamble said: "During the war, Daisy served in the UK, Jerusalem, Egypt, Palestine and the Gaza Strip."

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Wait and see, leader urges on the Budget

PLEDGES in the Budget to invest more in the NHS, extra investment in education and skills, and increases in personal tax allowances have been given a cautious welcome by the leader of Staffordshire County Council.

However, he criticised the lack of money for social care.

Councillor Philip Atkins said: "There was good news but it can take several weeks to examine what the Budget really means, not just for the council but for families and businesses in the county.

"Here in Staffordshire, we are committed to creating the right conditions to grow the economy and create more well-paid, better skilled jobs to boost productivity, so it was good to see this echoed in the Chancellor's speech. It was also good to see the need to invest in maths, computing and digital skills and re-training at the ground level."

But while there was extra funding for the NHS, no reference was made to social care, Mr Atkins pointed out.

"While extra funding for the NHS this winter is welcome for Staffordshire, for county councils in particular, the funding challenges and pressures on adult social care remain enormous and a long-term solution on how this is funded still needs to be fully addressed. We will be now looking towards the Local Government Financial Settlement for the detail for the funding for Staffordshire."

Scheme helps to cut yob nuisance

A SUMMER activities scheme has helped reduce anti-social behaviour in Staffordshire by more than one third.

The Space programme saw record attendances this year with more than 5,000 young people going along to events. It has had a knock-on effect on anti-social behaviour with 1,091 incidents recorded this summer compared with 1,768 the previous year – a 38 per cent reduction.

There were more than 2,200 events organised throughout Staffordshire between July and September with over 17,000 young people aged between 11 and 17 attending.

Activities included sports, dance, day trips, music sessions, film-making and drama workshops. Visit www.staffordshirespace.uk for details.

Strolling by castle

CHASE Ramblers' walk this Sunday is an eight-mile easy/moderate circular walk via Stafford Castle and Derrington, meeting at Hednesford railway station car park for a 9am prompt departure. Call 07725 676108.

JLR at centre of driverless cars revolution



The Jaguar Land Rover plant at i54

A REVOLUTION in driverless and electric vehicles will centre on Staffordshire, it has been revealed.

The Chancellor gave the go-ahead for a second devolution deal for the region in his Autumn Budget.

And Philip Hammond has vowed to work with West Midlands Mayor Andy Street to put the region at the forefront of the autonomous cars industry – a move expected to benefit the Jaguar Land Rover plant at the i54 site.

It came as the Chancellor announced a raft of plans for the West

Midlands as part of a second devolution deal, which will see the region given more funding and powers to improve infrastructure.

They included £6 million for a housing delivery taskforce to examine plans for 210,000 new houses by 2031, £5m for construction skills training, a portion of a £2.6 billion pot to improve the Urgent Care Centre at Dudley's Russells Hall Hospital, and a share of £28m to combat homelessness.

Earlier last week the Metro extension between Wednesbury and Brierley Hill was given the go-ahead

after the Prime Minister announced a £250m transport fund for the region.

JLR has spearheaded the UK's research into driverless vehicles, and has already revealed it is testing them here.

The Chancellor committed £100m to extend the grant for motorists buying plug-in cars – with a further £400m for installing electric charging points – and £150m will be ploughed into new job training and self-driving research projects.

He said: "Britain is at the forefront of a technological revolution."

Greenbelt homes battle won but 'war goes on'

CAMPAIGNERS have warned that they have 'won the battle but not the war' after controversial plans for up to 90 homes on greenbelt land were refused.

The proposals for Upper Landywood Lane near Cheslyn Hay were turned down despite being recommended for approval by planning officers.

There were cheers and applause from the public gallery as the scheme was thrown out by South Staffordshire Council's planning committee.

More than 1,500 people signed a petition opposing the scheme because of fears over increased traffic, and environmental damage, as well as claims that it would threaten the identities of Cheslyn Hay, Great Wyrley, and Landywood.

Residents feared the development could effectively merge Cheslyn Hay and nearby Great Wyrley into one.

Inevitable

But campaigners said there could be an appeal, and they expect the fight against greenbelt development to rear its head again.

On its Facebook page the developer behind the plans, KGL Holdings, said further development in Cheslyn Hay and Great Wyrley would be 'inevitable'.

Councillor Kath Williams, who represents Landywood, said: "This scheme would have had a detrimental impact on the green belt and didn't meet our planning policies.

"I am very happy because it has been a lot of hard work and tireless campaigning to defeat these proposals. We have won the battle but not the war."

Previous plans on the site for 141 homes were refused, and South Staffordshire MP Gavin Williamson also campaigned against the plans saying they were 'not wanted or needed by residents'.

Applicant Ken Lees of KGL Holdings had said the Grade-II listed Teddesley Hall Estate in Penkridge would undergo a multi-million pound revamp as part of the deal.

Livia designs MP's winning card



Amanda Milling with the winner of her card competition, Livia Bentley

CANNOCK Chase MP Amanda Milling has announced the winner of her 2017 Christmas card competition.

She invited local schoolchildren to design her official greeting card, with the winning design featuring on the front and two runners-up on the back. "It was exceptionally difficult to choose the winner,

with all the entries being very good," Ms Milling said.

"I am delighted to announce that Livia Bentley, aged 10, from St Luke's Primary School, was the winner and her design now features on the front of my Christmas card.

"I am sure everyone will agree that this design is fantastic and



Livia Bentley's winning card



Runner-up - Phoebe Ryder



Runner-up - Harvey Watson

particularly suited to Cannock Chase." The runners-up were Phoebe Ryder, 10, from West Hill Primary School and Harvey Watson, 10, from Churchfields CE Primary Academy.

St Luke's also submitted the winning design in 2016 while West Hill is a runner-up for the second consecutive year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Youth Commission seeking new faces

YOUNG people interested in advising a police commissioner on issues affecting them are being sought.

Matthew Ellis, the Police and Crime Commissioner for Staffordshire is appealing for young people aged 14 to 25 to sit on the county's Youth Commission, following a successful first year. The posts are open to those who want to be involved in policing and have their say about how crime is tackled.

Mr Ellis said he was looking for people who reflect the diverse population of the county, and who are willing to take part in quarterly meetings, develop skills and come up with creative ideas for workshops.

IT system boost for manufacturer

A MANUFACTURER of wheels and castors is set to improve business performance after teaming up with a local software company to invest in a new, purpose-designed IT system.

Rugeley-based Injectaplas opted for a bespoke Customer Relationship Management, order tracking and invoicing system built by DBLogic, also in Rugeley, in 2006.

Now the firm's IT partner has delivered the next generation system, designed to help Injectaplas grow volumes as it builds its business in food, retail, furniture and transport sectors.

Pubs gain star rating for loos

THE Linford Arms in High Green, Cannock and Hedgeford Lodge in Anglesey Street, Hednesford, have both been awarded a platinum star rating in the Loo of the Year Awards 2017.

The awards, celebrating their 30th anniversary this year, are decided after inspectors make unannounced visits to toilets across the UK.

Hedgeford Lodge manager Katherine Prince said: "We are delighted with the award. Staff at the pub ensure the toilets are in first-class condition at all times and it is great that this has been recognised."

New youth group has Limitless appeal

LIMITLESS Cannock, a new youth group for young people aged 11 to 16, has been set up in Cannock.

It meets each Tuesday in term time, from 7pm to 8.30pm, at Living Spring Community Centre, in Gorton Road.

Facilities include table tennis, pool, a tuck shop, a chill out space and a PlayStation 4.

For more information about the group, contact Jamie Price at jamie.price@limitlesslim.co.uk

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IN MY VIEW

with Mark Andrews



No way is student chav party 'classist'

WHEN I read that a group of students at Birmingham University were organising a chav-themed Christmas party, my initial thought was "where can I get a ticket?"

Getting blinged up, putting on a bit of fake sportswear and expressing dubious social attitudes, sounds a right lark. Not everyone is amused, though, it seems. English student Gina Murfin lodged a formal complaint, saying the event was "so blatantly classist and distasteful it's difficult to know even know where to begin."

She also accused her fellow students of "making fun of a demonised and marginalised area of society." Not one for overdoing the hyperbole then?

A few things spring to mind. First of all, what has it got to do with class? Moreover, don't you need to possess a certain amount of money to truly embrace chav culture?

For example, all that gold jewellery doesn't come cheap, particularly the way the commodities markets have gone over the past decade. And quaffing all that strong lager, have they not seen alcohol duty lately? And that's before we get to the sugar tax. Former lottery winner Mickey Carroll styled himself King of Chavs, and he wasn't short of a bob or two.

Secondly, are chavs really a demonised and marginalised community? I would have thought the whole point of being a chav was that they are the ones doing the demonising and marginalising. I don't see blinged up louts as a vulnerable minority.

But more important than any of this, what is a "classist"? Look in the dictionary. There's no such word. And this girl's studying English.

□□□

WE seem to have lost a lot of much-loved figures over the past year or two, but the death of Likely Lads star Rodney Bewes seems particularly sad.

In his later years he was a regular performer in this area, and he didn't bother with an agent or public relations officer. If he was in town he would telephone himself, and politely ask if we could give him a bit of publicity. He would then turn up in an old Ford Mondeo, with his scenery strapped to the roof rack or on a trailer.

He was saddened by his rift with co-star James Bolam, particularly the fact that Bolam distanced himself from The Likely Lads, seemingly believing it would harm his reputation as a serious actor.

Which is rather a shame. Because I can't help but think that 20, 30 or 40 years from now, The Likely Lads will be remembered much more fondly than New Tricks.

Soaring population: Time the Government got a grip



Jo Brand – reality telly at its most heart-tugging where stars are felines



Sajid Javid – claims that baby boomers are "living in a different world"



Biologist Sally Le Page – surprised at use of a divining rod to find a water main

No, baby boomers are not to blame

SO it's all our fault. Somehow I guessed that the housing shortage would eventually be blamed on us of the privileged, pampered post-war generation. Communities Secretary Sajid Javid says we baby boomers are "living in a different world" when we dare to question the need for millions more houses to be built. Really? Or maybe we live in the sort of world where, when a country's population has soared from 50 million to 70 million in a single lifetime and is growing at 500,000 a year, we expect the Government to get a grip. Most of Britain's social, housing and transport problems are the direct result of our soaring population – and yet the Government has no population policy. The problem is not selfish pensioners. It is stupid politicians.

DON'T believe anyone who claims to understand the Budget on Budget Day. All the little nasties are hidden away in something called the Red Book and will probably come to light a few days later, maybe at about the time you are reading this. It's that oh, **** moment.

IN this age of impersonal, soulless banking, I loved the tale from a reader whose little garage business was struggling some years ago. He went to his bank manager for a small loan and explained his cash-flow problem. The manager opened his drawer and tossed his car keys to him with the words: "I've got a new car on order. Sell this one for me and take a cut for yourself." No loan, no interest, no paperwork. Just fond memories of a simpler and more humane age.

TELLY has ticked all the schmaltz boxes and flicked all the weepy switches with Jo Brand's Cats & Kittens (C5). This is reality telly at its most heart-tugging where the stars are felines,

THE BEST OF PETER RHODES



the plot is all about horrible injuries and miraculous recoveries, and the presenter is that plump lass everybody loves. The icing on this extremely sugary cake is that it's set in Britain's most sentimental city, Liverpool. Having put all the aah-factor ingredients together so well, where does C5 go next? I had a brilliant idea about fluffy little orphaned baby hamsters being taught to sing Christmas carols by Aled Jones. What could possibly go wrong?

SALLY Le Page, described as "an evolutionary biologist at the University of Oxford and an award-winning science communicator and YouTuber," was surprised to hear that two Severn Trent workers were using a divining rod as they tried to find a water main near her parents' home. She has duly tweeted against this "medieval" practice and is "astonished" to discover that other water companies use the same techniques. Frankly, I'm astonished that she's astonished. Isn't it well known that water companies and many private citizens use divining? Over the years it has been reported in many TV and newspaper features. How can anyone become an evolutionary biologist at Oxford without knowing such things?

I HAVE a friend who is a dowser. I can't produce any scientifically acceptable proof that it works, but he makes a reasonable living at it, which suggests he has a fair success rate. I once had a go with his divining kit and, as a fully paid-up sceptic, was surprised at the "pull"

on the L-shaped rods swivelling in biro tubes. It could have been self-delusion or I may have stumbled upon an underground stream, who knows? But if I were a Severn-Trent worker with a van stuffed full of hi-tech leak-detection devices which do not always work perfectly (because that's how real life goes), I might be tempted to carry divining rods, just as back-up. Where's the harm and what's the problem?

ONE Guardian website reader put it admirably: "When did science become so shrill and intolerant? " I bet the answer is when science took over from religion. They both have their inquisitions.

OUT of a chilly, windy day and into the warmth of the hairdresser's where the clippers (number three all over, since you ask) are soon humming merrily against my skull. I ask the hairdresser whether any customer has ever fallen asleep. "Happens all the time," she says. "It's very therapeutic." Offhand, I can't think of any other therapy that costs a fiver for ten minutes.

IT was the hairdresser who pointed out that, no matter how dark and gloomy the days are, the winter solstice is only four weeks away. One of the strange things about our calendar is how early midsummer and midwinter fall. Spring? It's just beyond that black cloud . . .

AND I have no idea what happened to September's confident predictions that Britain could suffer six named storms before Christmas. We have seen only two and one of those was a damp squib. Either we are in for a truly horrendous December or this is yet further proof that trying to forecast the weather more than a week ahead is a mug's game.

TALKING POINT



No one is immune to falling on hard times

FOOD banks are used by scroungers and asylum seekers and are magnets for those just looking for free food – according, sadly, to outspoken and somewhat deluded opponents of the facility.

And while many of us may shake our heads at such insensitive and ill-conceived ideas it is probably fair to say we don't really know who does use food banks, but don't think it's people like us.

What wishful thinking to believe it won't happen to us, that we are unlikely to have to turn to food banks for help. In truth it could happen to anyone – and for a number of reasons.

A study from researchers at Oxford University and King's College London, looking at those who use the Trussell Trust network of food banks – which has given out 586,907 three-day emergency food supplies to people in crisis in first half of this year – found five out of six people were out of work and one in five had slept rough in recent months.

Ill health was common, while half of households using the food banks included someone with a disability and a third had mental health problems.

Eighty-seven per cent were born in the UK and four per cent had a degree – with the heavy debt of student loans hanging over their heads too. It's fair to say that the vast majority of those using food banks were on low incomes and more adversely affected by life changes.

However, any one of us could find ourselves out of work. Bad health is indiscriminate or we could suffer an injury and be left unable to work. What about those whose lives are turned upside down by divorce or family tragedy?

Latest figures are quite clear too that delays in making payments to people legitimately entitled to benefits under the controversial Universal Credit payments system have caused misery. Referrals to the trust in the first six months of the year were up by 13 per cent to 587,000 people, including 209,000 children.

One family from Hedsford recently donated £250 to the local food bank. Their reason? Both the mother, who was a nurse, and the father, a headteacher, had relied on such charity in the past.

No-one is immune to hard times and changing circumstances. Donate now to support those in need of a helping hand – just as you would hope the community would support you should the cruel finger of fate strike at any time.

● The Express & Star and Chronicle are running a Feed A Family This Christmas appeal in support of food banks and the homeless. Visit www.expressandstar.com/news/feed-a-family/

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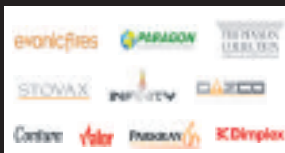


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Streets ahead – Ben puts runaway days into verse

BEN Westwood first ran away from home at the age of nine.

By the time he was 11, he'd gone through a series of foster carers before one day leaving Rugeley on a train. Ben ended up on the streets of London's East End. He was 13.

About a year later, he was sleeping rough on Piccadilly, near Green Park underground station.

Now a 32-year-old musician who has returned to Staffordshire, Ben has shared stories of his desperate times and ordeals on the streets as a young boy through poetry.

In his debut book 'Poems From a Runaway', Ben shares many of his experiences as well as his insight into the 1990s social services system.

From angels to predators, desperate situations to heart-warming outcomes, his story is told through verse.

Stranger

He met many interesting people including a woman who played Scrabble with him. He said: "It's not often that a resident of the Athenaeum Hotel on Piccadilly comes out and sits with you at your begging spot and plays Scrabble. I'd love to find her, she really is a one-in-a-million. I think she may have been Canadian but my memory may

be wrong and she could be American."

Ben did recently track down an Evening Standard seller called Peter, who with another seller called George, found Ben on the steps of Green Park station and took him under their wing some 18 years ago.

His poems include Intercontinental which Ben says is 'about a kind stranger who brought me an expensive hotel room in Mayfair for the night after I had hardly slept for weeks and was undergoing sleep deprivation'. Free Drinks at Haymarket refers to a



Ben Westwood has shared his experiences in his debut book



Desperate – the young runaway Ben



Ben tracked down paper seller Peter who took him under his wing

incident during his early days in London's West End aged around 14.

He said: "I happened to be wearing a Walsall FC jumper, and I was always on the bag to stay undetected, so I told the bloke working in the sports cafe that I was playing for Walsall FC reserves."

East End Adventures is about his time in the notorious Whitechapel.

Ben added: "I'd really wanted to share my journeys and little stories anyway, and found poetry was the best medium, for myself, to get a book

completed. I'd tried writing it as a normal book a few times, but not only did it sound a little monotonous reading myself talking about myself, but also some of the darker stories would make me malfunction for several days, unable to be creative and continue writing.

"For me, writing it in poetry was a digestible way to get these stories written and out, without simply drowning on about myself." Visit Ben's blog-site at www.benwestwooduk.blogspot.com or his Facebook page at www.facebook.com/poemsfromarunaway



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8 So, who can remember Maastricht?

WHAT A joke, now the date for leaving is March 29, 2019 plus another two years for adjustment – that brings us up to 2021.

How many governments in the meantime will use statements like ‘new terms with Europe’ or ‘new trading alliance’ or ‘greater understanding’ or other terms that mean we are still dancing to the tune of Europe?

At the heart of the matter, we still have to restore the sovereignty of Parliament, take back control of our borders, and cease to prop up a crumbling over-bureaucratic system.

Our government would seem to be buying time to let the very idea of Brexit fade into the past. After all, who can remember Maastricht?

LESINTHESHED
Cannock

What next for failing the shiny shoe test?

THE Government states that ‘English and maths provide a vital foundation to enable students to progress to employment and further study . . .’ (Department for Education, 2017).

Hart School believes that by upholding a high standard of uniform they are raising educational standards (“120 pupils put in isolation”, Chronicle, November 2).

On their website they invite you to compare their school (www.compare-school-performance.service.gov.uk/schools-by-type).

It is not only the right kind of shoe that is required but a shoe that can be polished.

I’ve no strong opinions about school uniform, but perhaps the principal (Chris Keen), our MP, the Creative Education Trust, the West Midlands regional schools commissioner (Christine Quinn) and Ofsted (no inspection since 2013) can shed some light on how shiny shoes will make any difference to exam grades at the end of 11 years of compulsory education and the life chances of young people in Rugeley.

Perceived wisdom is that it is effective teaching and learning that makes the difference; wrangles about uniform are a distraction.

Will there be a further sanction for failing to pass the shiny shoe test?

ALISON WHITE
Rugeley

Still not enough teachers

NAHT, the school leaders’ union, have just announced the results of our annual schools recruitment survey and for the fourth year, the findings are a huge concern.

The Government is still failing to provide enough teachers for our growing school population.

The recruitment pipeline is leaking at both ends with insufficient numbers of newly qualified teachers coming into the system and too many experienced ones leaving prematurely.

The Government must make the necessary changes. This should be the focus, to attract and retain teachers, pay them properly, treat them well and respect the need for a proper work-life balance.

NICK BROOK
NAHT

Thank you for coming to my rescue on M6

I’M not really sure if this will be read by the kind people who stopped and assisted me when I was hit by an HGV whilst travelling to work on the M6 southbound, but I would like to thank them for what they did.

It was around 5.45am on Wednesday, October 18 between junctions 10 and 9. I ended up facing oncoming traffic on the hard shoulder. A kind lady and a man, both of whom I believe were travelling to work, did not have to stop and help but they did. The lady spoke to my husband and said I was unhurt but shaken. They both made sure I was OK before leaving me in the hands of the traffic officers. My car, a yellow Citroen Ds3, has been written off, but that can be replaced. I don’t know your names but I would truly like to say a big thank you from the bottom of my heart.

SANDRA
Cannock

We’ll carry on our fight

WELL, we are celebrating after plans for the destruction of our green belt were refused (see Page 5). I think as a community, Great Wyrley and Cheslyn Hay residents are doing a sterling job in fighting this development. We will carry on, that’s how strongly we feel. Congratulations to us all.

DIANE FREEMAN
Very proud Great Wyrley resident

FOR MORE LETTERS TURN TO PAGE 15

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Zeppelin outrage is relived

Etching Hill WI

IN a change to the notified guest speaker, Ian Bott gave a presentation on the well documented, horrific night when towns and villages in the Midlands received aerial bombardment from two Zeppelins during the Great War. Poignant slides of the destruction suffered were shown.

On 31 January 1916, nine Zeppelin airships passed, unchallenged, over the east coast; Liverpool being their target. Thick fog caused the fleet to become disorientated and the Black Country was attacked instead.

Tipton was first. The town centre sustained heavy bombing and three generations of one family perished. As the Zeppelin followed the Wolverhampton Union Canal a courting couple in Bradley were killed on its banks. Wednesbury sustained further casualties and Walsall's Congregational Church, Cottage Hospital and Saddlery were bombed.

A bomb was dropped in Bradford Place just as the number 16 tram arrived with passenger Mary Slater, the Lady Mayoress of Walsall, on board. She sustained fatal injuries and died on 20 February, from septicæmia. The Walsall Cenotaph marks the spot where the bomb exploded.

A second airship was found in the North Sea by the crew of a British steam fishing trawler, but was left to sink without trace along with its crew.

Travel slide show provides reel treat



Annette Martin, chairman Sheila Yard and Peter Martin

CHAIRMAN Sheila Yard welcomed everyone to the October luncheon at the Barns Restaurant, Cocksparrow Lane, Huntington.

She had some sad news concerning Kathleen Roberts, a long time member of the club who had sadly passed away aged 98. Kathleen had been living in a nursing home at Market Drayton for four years.

Some of her close Probus friends had been to visit her with club secretary Norma Hutchinson, and she had been so pleased to see them after so many years of friendship.

Monica Thompson said Grace after which the ladies sat to have their luncheon. After the Loyal Toast a short business meet-

Cannock Chase Ladies Probus Club

ing took place. Mrs Yard introduced and welcomed guest speakers, Peter Martin assisted by his wife Annette, who gave an interesting film show and talk on their visit in 2009 to Mongolia.

The photography and filming was superb and it was accompanied by music.

The vote of thanks was given by Winifrede Haynes who complimented Peter on a wonderful talk and film. A donation was presented to Peter for a charity of his choice.

An insight into hospital life

THE speaker for November was the Reverend Lynn Morris on 'Sluice to Altar'.

Rev Morris described how she has had two main careers during her life.

She always wanted to be a nurse and watching Emergency Ward 10 and Dr Kil-

Cheslyn Hay TG

dare on the TV confirmed this. Early sacrifices and learning on the job helped her attain her goal.

Later in life she became one of the first General

Practice Nurses and has since become a Church of England priest and works as a hospital chaplain.

The ladies were given a few examples of how nursing has changed over the years and given little anecdotes on hospital life.

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Wonderful festive season awaits



David Tomalin of Lichfield BID and Aileen Beesley of Visit Lichfield

A MONTH of festive events and activities is highlighted in the Lichfield's Wonderful Christmas brochure. From carol services through to a 2.5k Santa Dash, the booklet, produced by Lichfield Business Improvement District (BID) and Visit Lichfield, features more than 65 events.

A highlight of this year's festive calendar are the two Christmas festival weekends on December 2-3 and 9-10 featuring a range of markets selling gifts and artisan food and drink, as well as The Johnson Family Christmas and Erasmus Darwin's 286th Birthday Bash.

Lichfield BID manager David Tomalin said: "I am delighted to launch Lichfield's Wonderful Christmas, which is a useful guide to all the fabulous festive events taking place in Lichfield this Christmas. There is so much to do and see in the city." Councillor Ian Pritchard, cabinet member for economic growth, environment & development services on Lichfield District Council, said: "This brochure is the perfect way to plan a month of festive fun."

For listings go to www.visitlichfield.co.uk/christmas

Drop in and share views on future of libraries

PEOPLE in Staffordshire are being given the chance to help shape the future of their local libraries service.

Drop-in events are being held throughout December to give people the opportunity to get involved in discussions. Feedback from the informal events will help develop the proposals that will be consulted on in the new year.

The consultation will help the service plan ahead for the next three years.

As well as making greater use of technology and new 'out-of-hours' options, proposals for the service being explored include increasing the number of community managed libraries and reviewing how the mobile and travelling service is used.

The drop-in events will take place from 10am until midday at Burton Library, December 1; Tamworth Library, December 5; Leek Library, December 6; Perton Library, December 7; Cannock Library, December 12; Newcastle Library, December 14; Stafford Library, December 19.

Councillor Gill Heath,

By Simon Stone

Staffordshire County Council's cabinet member for communities, said: "The way people are reading and finding out information is changing all the time, and we must change with it to make sure we continue to meet people's needs.

"Our libraries continue to be the hubs of local communities, providing access to books and information, as well as lots of different activities and services. Over the last three years we have reshaped the service in Staffordshire without closing any of our 43 libraries, and we've done this by consulting with library users, staff and the wider public."

Road blocked after huge pile of rubbish dumped



Gravelly Lane in Stonnall was left completely blocked off by the fly-tipped rubbish

A LARGE pile of rubbish including a shed roof was left dumped in a country lane, blocking off the route.

The heap was removed from Gravelly Lane, Stonnall, by Lichfield District Council workers.

A door, insulation material, plaster and fibre-board were also in the haul. It is suspected it was dumped there by a rogue builder or someone who was paid to collect the rubbish and avoided disposing of it at a registered site. The council has now issued an appeal for

anyone with any information to come forward.

Councillor Iain Eadie, responsible for operational services, leisure and waste, said: "The person who fly-tipped this rubbish has committed a criminal offence.

"When employing a builder, gardener, or house clearance company, don't forget to check they are licensed with the Environment Agency to legally remove your waste. If they are not, don't use them as you may end up becoming a fly-tipper indirectly, and could be fined up to £5,000."



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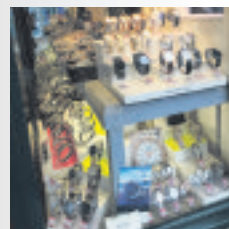
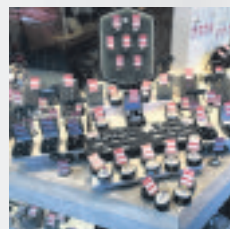
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SLADE guitarist Dave Hill's life has been packed with ups, downs... and the downright bizarre.

In his new autobiography *So Here It Is*, he reveals one of the most curious facts of all – that his parents staged a fake wedding when they found he was on the way.

The star's father, Jack Hill, already had a failed first marriage behind him, and his mother Dorothy had had a child out of wedlock before the pair met.

They couldn't get married because Jack's wife wouldn't give him a divorce.

So when Dorothy became pregnant with Dave, they decided to move to Devon.

When they wanted to move back to the Midlands, for the sake of the family album, they staged a mock wedding, with everyone barred from the register office. Dave says: "It's incredible. I only discovered that they did this quite recently."



Dave Hill with his autobiography *So Here It Is*

Help find robbers who battered my father, 87

THE daughter of an elderly man who was left with horrific injuries after trobbers beat him in his home has appealed for anyone with information to come forward.

Arthur 'Bob' Gumbley, aged 87, was found lying on the floor and covered in blood at his home in Endwood Drive, Little Aston.

Daughter Sue has described how her father had become a 'scared old man' after the attack. He had been left questioning why he was the target.

She appealed for anyone with information to contact the police saying the attackers would have been covered in her father's blood.

The robbers struck shortly before 10pm last Tuesday. Mr Gumbley was

taken to hospital with severe bruising to his left eye, both hands and right arm requiring surgery. He had been punched in the face and kicked while on the floor. He also suffered bruising to the back of his neck and chest.

The thieves ransacked the house and stole cash from Mr Gumbley's wallet. Both suspects are described as white, with one in his late teens and the other in his mid-20s.

Detective Inspector John Quilty said: "This was a despicable and cowardly attack on a defenceless, elderly man in his own home."

"His family has agreed to release photos of his injuries in the hope that anyone who has any information about the attack will come forward."

Ring 101 and quote incident number 828 or Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.



Arthur 'Bob' Gumbley

It's a match – college in web service

A FREE matchmaking service where small-business owners exchange a free product or service in return for a website is being piloted in Lichfield.

The brainchild of the UK Domain, it aims to help more businesses get online.

Over a quarter of British small businesses on the high street still don't have a website despite 67 per cent of consumers saying they look online before they visit a local business.

Under the scheme, higher education computing students from Walsall College are paired with independent businesses to create a simple website.

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Supporters – Jack and the Beanstalk panto stars Adam C Booth and Ian Adams visit the newspaper offices

A HOST of stars have come out in support of our Feed A Family This Christmas food banks appeal with readers rallying to help the cause.

Superstar boy band The Vamps were among the big names to back the appeal and urge readers and communities to donate items.

Singer James McVey, who was at the Merry Hill centre for the Christmas lights switch-on, said: "It is a great idea and a good cause."

And panto stars Ian Adams and Adam C Booth stopped off at the Express & Star and Chronicle offices in Wolverhampton before switching on the city's Christmas lights to offer their support to the campaign.

Ian, who plays Dame Trot and Adam who is Simple Simon in Jack and the Beanstalk at Wolverhampton's Grand Theatre, also appealed for more donations. Their fellow panto star Lisa Riley helped launch the appeal and support has also come from such names as Slade legend Dave Hill,

THE DROP-OFF POINTS:

Express & Star Wolverhampton, 51-53 Queen Street, WV1 1ES; Express & Star Cannock/Walsall office, Queen Square, Cannock WS11 1EA; Oldbury office, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury, B69 2DG.

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Waitrose Wolverhampton, Penn Road, WV2 4NJ; The Midlands Co-operative Food Store Codsall, 28-32 Wood Lane/Bakers Way, Codsall WV8 1DB. Donations dropped off at those will go to The Well.



auctioneer Will Farmer and Olympian Joe Clarke. Meanwhile a kind-hearted Cannock market trader has offered to collect food and other items.

Anne Franks sells a variety of goods for a different charity each week on her pop-up stall at Cannock Indoor Market and has offered to use the stall to collect for Feed a Family.

The stall is adjacent to the Market Cafe. Items can be donated every Friday and Saturday until the end of the campaign on December 16.

The campaign aims to help the homeless, those who need the support of food banks and women helped by The Haven refuge in Wolverhampton.

The non-perishable food will be handed to food banks and other charitable organisations across the Black Country and Staffordshire. Readers can donate festive food, and basics including canned goods, long-life milk, fruit juice, rice and non-food items, toiletries, baby supplies, new socks and small presents are also welcome.

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14 Revamp turns pub into a true Star

The Chronicle Thursday, November 30, 2017

Commercial feature

The Star, situated in Market Place in Penkridge has recently reopened its doors after being closed for two to three weeks having undergone a major refurbishment by Marston's Brewery both inside and out.

The makeover has seen a complete redecoration internally with a fresh country colour scheme, as well as a newly fitted bar which stocks a great selection of real ales, lagers and ciders.

There is also a brand new kitchen area which has enabled the pub to launch a brand new menu from light bites, traditional snacks and homemade Scotch eggs to more hearty traditional meals. Food will be served Tuesday to Sunday midday to 3pm.

Welcomes

Also with the current trend being gin at the moment, you can sample a huge selection of different flavours to tempt any taste buds, and as well as this you will also find eight malt whiskeys to enjoy on a cold winter's evening.

There has also been a total revamp to the exterior, again with new colours to give a real country feel to the new look and a stunning new sign on the side of the building.

A brand new seating area runs around the front of the building giving visitors a great place to sit enjoy the outdoors, bringing the local village pub right back to life.

Step in to the bar area and there is a fantastic log burner which welcomes you, giving a warm and cosy feeling the minute you walk through the door.

New owners Ally and her husband Richard took over the pub back in July 2017, along



A warm welcome – the log burner gives a warm and cosy feeling when you walk into the bar area



New colours give the exterior of The Star a real country feel

with their two daughters Beatrice and Eliza. Ally has spent all her life in the pub trade with her mum, who has been a licensee since the tender age of 18 years old, and her father was an ex-Bass area manager.

Since the takeover Ally has seen the business go from strength to strength. They have really settled into village life in the heart

of Penkridge. The Star is nestled at the heart of the community, with both young and old customers popping in for a visit.

They are excited to be able to offer a place where locals can enjoy a drink or a meal in enhanced surroundings.

Ally said: "The opening was a real success, with great feedback from guests on the

delicious new menu and the fantastic interior. "We look forward to welcoming more guests in the coming weeks.

Entertained

"Families and children are welcome here," she added.

There is a great range of live entertainment

set to run throughout the year to keep you entertained on your visits including a real ale festival where you can sample lots of different local ales.

A cider festival is also planned for all the cider lovers out there.

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Speak up on welfare of ducks

IT was great to see Jamie Oliver talking about the importance of farmed ducks having full body access to water on Jamie and Jimmy's Friday Night Feast.

A recent poll by RSPCA Assured revealed that 88 per cent of people think ducks farmed for meat should be given water they can fully get into. But most readers

will probably be shocked to know that the vast majority of farmed ducks are only given enough water to be able to dip their heads in.

In fact the law states they do not have to be given anything other than drinking water, which could be from a metal ball-bearing drinker, similar to those used by pet hamsters. Sadly there are no

duck producers farming to the RSPCA's welfare standards for ducks, under the RSPCA Assured label.

To help put pressure on your supermarket to stock duck that has had full body access to water, visit www.rspcaassured.org.uk/lobby-your-supermarket
SOPHIE ELWES
RSPCA

They ought to punish real villains

ALTHOUGH I agree litter louts should be named and shamed I find it totally bizarre that someone can get fined hundreds of pounds for discarding cigarette ends on a pavement, yet travellers can leave fields full of rubbish and not get fined a penny.

No doubt those of us who pay council tax will have to fork out more next year to help finance the ever increasing clean-up operations caused by the travellers instead of the authorities imposing a hefty fine on the real villains.

MR J WOOD
Cannock

Dress up for day of fundraising

WE'RE asking readers to help us raise money for some very special children during their Christmas celebrations this year.

The Children's Trust is asking you to show some Christmas spirit by getting involved in Festive Friday, a national dress-up day, on December 8.

Haven't got anything festive? The downloadable Festive Friday toolkit complete with DIY selfie props is the perfect accompaniment for your Christmas party and those festive party photos, in return for a suggested donation of £2.

Money raised will help to support children with brain injury from across the UK.

Sign up today at www.thechildrenstrust.org.uk/festivefriday

HANNAH VINCE
The Children's Trust

More firms should have back-to-work initiatives

THE Autumn Budget announced new investments to bridge the UK's widening industrial skills gap. The skills gap will not be bridged by apprentices or students alone.

My employer introduced a back-to-work initiative for ex-forces that has helped myself and many others become skilled electrical engineers. This has been an invaluable asset in the company's growth.

More employers must introduce such initiatives and the UK Government must provide funding for these schemes.

MATT COLLINS
Ide Systems, Cannock

Grateful for transport

I WOULD very much like to say how grateful I am for the free transport that is provided between Cannock Chase Hospital and New Cross Hospital for patients and, if necessary, their carers.

I have needed to use the transport on numerous occasions over the last six months, as I was unable to drive for most of that period. Such an excellent service. Thank you.

HELEN ADDIS
Cannock

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST

Cannock & Rugeley Chronicle,
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Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL

[cannock.chron@
expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:cannock.chron@expressandstar.co.uk)

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Code of Practice: Our policy is to correct errors as soon as we can. The Chronicles adhere to the Editors' Code of Practice, which can be seen at www.ipso.co.uk. If you are unhappy with the accuracy of a story, write to The Editor, Chronicles, 51-53 Queen Street, Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES



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FOCUS ON HEDNESFORD

Sound work – memorial site has new PA system

PEOPLE attending remembrance services at Hednesford War Memorial are now able to hear the spoken tributes more clearly, thanks to a local voluntary group.

A combination of a portable and fixed-installation public address system provides clear sound coverage all over the site, as demonstrated during this year's remembrance service.

"In recent years the site has been one of the highest attended memorials in the area," Robert Blount, president of Hednesford Centennial Lions Club.

"However, members of the growing congregation have found it difficult, and in most cases impossible, to hear and feel part of the moving service commemorating those lost from our community."

The Lions were invited to come up with a solution, and so members set about gaining the necessary approvals.

"We would like to thank everyone that has helped us in any way and all of those who have contributed, including Mandy and Bill of The Bridge Inn; Lion Jim Card; John Bowley; Matthew Bowley; Chris Ryan; David Corbett; Weldall Architectural Fabrications; 1st Signal Regiment Stafford; Hednesford Town Council; Hednesford Memorial Society; Tesco; Councillors Phil Hewitt and Brian Jones; and Friends of Hednesford Park," Mr Blount added.

"During the installation we also found a little time to help clear some of the very overgrown areas of the gardens that in time will complement the amazing replanting work that has been done by other community volunteers."



Hednesford Lions celebrating the installation of the public address system; inset, speakers now provide clear sound coverage at the site

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£2k energy-saving grant offer

CHARITIES and community groups in Staffordshire are being invited to apply for up to £2,000 of funding through the E.ON Energising Communities Fund, which is available for the second time this year.

To be eligible for funding organisations must submit a request which supports activities that help bring about a reduction in their own energy use, help generate energy from a renewable source, or provide energy efficiency advice for local people.

One recent beneficiary of the fund was

Martin Heath Memorial Hall in Lichfield which provides facilities for Brownies, toddler groups, a bridge club and the Alzheimer's Society's 'Singing for the Brain' service.

The organisation received a £1,980 grant to install cavity wall and loft insulation to help reduce heat loss and make the hall more comfortable for its regular users.

The application deadline is Monday, January 29. For terms and conditions and to access the application form, visit eonenergy.com/communityGroups

3,600 shifts at fire service lost due to sickness

MORE than 3,600 fire service shifts – including firefighters – are expected to be lost by the end of the year due to sickness. And around 30 per cent of those absences at Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service are down to mental health issues, it has been revealed.

Officers have said that the recorded absence rates have a direct impact on services and finances. This year, in total, 2,121 shifts have been lost to unplanned absence between April 1 and October 31, with the service stating that this figure gives them an expected absence level of 3,636 shifts lost in 2017.

Pink Floyd fans will wish they were there



What the Floyd – 'uniquely powerful' Photo: Hemma Mason

FANS of Pink Floyd will be rocking out to classic hits from the group in Cannock tomorrow (Friday).

What the Floyd – billed as 'no regular tribute act' – will be at the Prince of Wales Theatre.

They have been playing to packed houses all over the UK, and this is their first trip to Staffordshire.

The band have a reputation for a 'uniquely powerful and accurate recreation of the Floyd sound' and their set features Another Brick in the Wall, Money, Shine On You Crazy Diamond, Wish You Were Here and Comfortably Numb among other classics.

Of the shifts lost over the seven-month period, 711 were lost to 'mental health or neurological conditions'.

Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Authority will meet for a crunch meeting over the issue today (Thursday).

Tim Hyde, the service's director of response, has said: "Officers are working with occupational health and a number of training providers to raise awareness of issues that may impact on mental health and wellbeing."

"All employees are encouraged to be open about mental health, and the service is committed to removing any stigma that might be perceived to be linked to mental wellbeing."

"In the whole-time operational workforce, any unplanned absence results in funding being provided to bring staff in to fill gaps in the crewing of fire appliances. In this case any absence has a direct cost."

In 2014-15, 2,468 days of absence were recorded – 615 more than in 2013-14.

Days missed due to stress also increased to 324 from 289 over that period.

The service's prevent and protect director Glynn Luznyj said: "The service as a whole has robust processes

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A MORRISONS worker has laced up her running shoes to help the chain reach its £8 million fundraising target for children with cancer.

Sarah Smith from the Cannock store recently both the Stafford and Birmingham half marathons for the charity CLIC Sargent, the company's charity partner until 2020.

Sarah starting running after the birth of her daughter Elsie-May, to help lose weight. She says the three-year-old is her biggest fan and supports her at all her races.

Hazel Fraser, Community Champion at Morrisons Cannock, said: "It's fantastic what Sarah has achieved, and both colleagues and our customers have been really supportive."

Sarah has raised £384.47 which the Morrisons Foundation will match to give a total of £768.94. Kate Lightfoot, senior account manager at Morrisons, said: "We are delighted."



Sarah Smith and daughter Elsie-May, aged three

James flies high in RAF Cosford training

BEING an apprentice at an RAF base means adapting to changing roles. James Dermody has done just that – and has now landed himself an award.

James is on an 18-month apprenticeship at the RAF Cosford Museum, where he has been hands-on with exhibits and even had the chance to handle an eagle during a bird of prey event.

James, aged 20, from Burntwood, is a computer expert and has so impressed staff at the museum that he was nominated for the Apprentice of the Year category at the UK IT Industry Awards in London.

The awards were held at Battersea Park Events Arena, and James, who



Apprentice James Dermody with bald eagle Zephyr at RAF Cosford

was one of eight finalists, beat off tough competition to be highly commended in the contest.

Thousands of IT professionals from across the UK attended the awards

evening. James was accompanied at the ceremony by the museum's IT manager Simon Humphries, who said: "James is an excellent apprentice and has shown great potential since he started with us."

"During his apprenticeship so far, James has worked on a variety of projects at the base, successfully implementing a public-facing digital signage system as well as inputting into the RAF Museum's Centenary Project."

The nomination process included an initial phone interview, supported by a testimony from the museum.

James said: "I was thrilled to be highly commended, and I am proud of what I have achieved in my past year at the museum."

"I hope to continue proving myself and improving my skills at the museum and contributing to its future."

Church in Light up a Life service

THE Light up a Life service will be held as usual at St Luke's Church, Cannock.

This year the service, organised by St Giles Hospice and the Cannock Friends of St Giles, will take place on December 10 at 6pm.

The church will be open from 5.15pm. The Friends group will welcome everyone with orders of service and a candle to remember the life of a loved one.

As on the last two occasions the Book of Remembrance will be in the Lady Chapel. Many people have the name of a loved one recorded in it – this can be arranged via St Giles, and the person remembered does not have to have been looked after by the hospice or its outreach services.

The service will again feature singers Bel Canto.

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JACK STARR
Sarah and Nick are delighted to announce the safe arrival of their son, born January 11, 2011. He's an absolute joy!

Epie May Beddow
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Announcements must be supplied by 12noon on Monday for the same week's publication.

CHRONICLE

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Please note: Whilst we make every effort to ensure safe return of your photographs, we do not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to photographs in transit.

Refund bid on bonfire security

ORGANISERS of a bonfire which descended into violent scenes have criticised the security firm they hired for 'failings' and demanded a refund on the hire fee.

Trouble flared at the fireworks show at Hazel Lane, Great Wyrley, on November 4. Rumours circulated that a member of the public was stabbed in the disorder, although Staffordshire Police said they had not received any official reports of anything of that severity.

Now Great Wyrley Parish Council, which

organises the event, has confirmed it is taking action against the company who provided security on the night. The council has not named the firm but said a full report on the incident would be published this month.

Chairman Helen Snape said: "I am aware of a number of failings from the security contractor who we hired to help keep the event safe. We as a parish council are in the process of challenging them over this and will be looking to recover the full fee we paid for their services."

Sounds like a success as firm marks its 200th

It has made toilets, urinals and basins for the likes of the Titanic and Wembley Stadium. Now one of the Midlands' - and the UK's - oldest businesses has launched a celebratory campaign to mark 200 years since it was founded.

The iconic bathroom brand Armitage Shanks is still based in Armitage, alongside the Trent & Mersey Canal, where it was started by Thomas Bond in 1817. The business has produced millions of items for homes and public buildings, including offices, pubs, restaurants, schools, hospitals and sports stadiums.

It currently employs around 350 workers.

To mark the 200th anniversary, bosses at Armitage Shanks's parent company Ideal Standard have launched a website celebrating the history of the brand and a quiz to inspire users to test their knowledge of all things plumbing, bathrooms and Armitage Shanks.

It has also worked with music production collaborative DJ Molecules to create a track generated from recordings of sample sounds in the bathroom and of plumbers going about their job - including a flushing toilet, dripping tap and even the sound of a pipe being cut.

The company has released a free-to-download smartphone app, Beats200, enabling plumbers and fans of the firm alike, to mix their own piece of music for fun.

Armitage Shanks director Katie Cope said: "We wanted to create a feelgood celebration atmosphere around the brand, which is looking towards the future, as well as celebrating the past."

"We're delighted to celebrate this historic milestone"

Visit www.Celebrate200.co.uk

Zoo undergoing a winter revamp



Keeper Andy Cooper with Gonzo in the rebuilt Coati enclosure. A ZOO is undergoing a revamp while it is closed for the winter. Pens and enclosures are being rebuilt at the Animal Zone at South Staffordshire College.

The Rodbaston campus is home to more than 700 animals ranging from crocodiles to lemurs and has served as a teaching unit for animal care students since 2009.

It is also open to the public on weekends and school holidays but now, having closed for the next few months, volunteers and staff are taking the opportunity to improve the site. Beth Watkin, deputy animal centre manager, said: "We started last month as soon as we closed for the winter and we are just going to keep going until we are happy."

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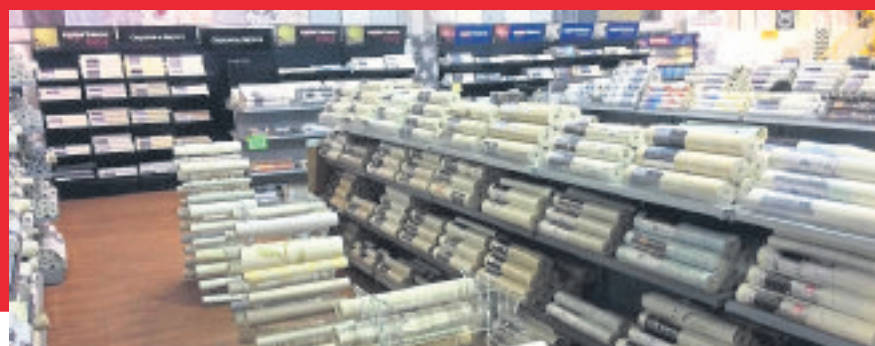
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Hair today – salon retraces its roots

DAVID BANNER takes a look at a hair and beauty salon celebrating 30 years in business

BECOMING part of the landscape takes time, yet for some it appears to have gone in the 'twinkle of an eye'.

This is how Obsession Salon and Spa managing director Karen Wharton described her experience of running the salon in the heart of Lichfield for the past 30 years.

She said: "Lichfield is a great city, the people are really friendly, and I can't think of a better place to have started the business. Seriously, where did 30 years go?"

The salon opened in 1987 with a core team of five stylists, several of whom remain with the business to this day.

Trust

"Know what you do, do it consistently, and give it your absolute best" is how Karen describes the secret of their longevity. "clients need to know they can trust you to leave them feeling and looking the best version of themselves possible."

"They also need to know you can keep their secrets safe!"

With a loan from her late uncle, Colin Sergeant, Karen and her then business partner Simon Rogers opened the salon on the corner of Castle Dyke.

The salon was busy with clients from day one, several of whom continue to have their hair styled and cared for to this day.

Karen added: "Without the loyalty



The salon team when Obsession opened in 1987



Some members of the salon team today



MD Karen Wharton

and continued support of our lovely clients I wouldn't be celebrating 30 years in Lichfield.

"They are the reason we love what we do. Few people have the privilege

of helping others to look and feel fantastic.

"Let's face it, who wouldn't want to go to work if you got to do this for others every day?"

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How home can give a seasonal welcome

CANALSIDE Farm near Rugeley will be inspiring customers to get creative with two Christmas wreath workshops.

Victoria Barton will teach guests how to use natural greenery and trimmings to create a welcoming wreath for their front door. The two-hour workshops will take place on December 4 and 6 between 6.30pm and 8.30pm, and will include a glass of mulled wine and a home-made mince pie.

Advanced booking is required and tickets can be booked via www.canalsidefarm.co.uk or on 01889 881747.

Beacon Park in Lichfield is also hosting two days of Christmas wreath workshops, on December 9 and 10 from 10am to midday and 2pm to 4pm. Places need to be booked on 01543 308869 or by emailing parks@lichfieldcc.gov.uk

HomeServe completes takeover of Checkatrade

HOMESERVE has completed its takeover of Checkatrade in a £54 million – and is enjoying fresh growth at home and abroad.

The home repairs, insurance and improvements business said revenue in the first six months of the year rose 16 per cent to £366m. It attracted more customers in the UK, United States and Europe and said its expectations for strong full-year growth remained on track.

The firm, which employs 1,100 people at its headquarters in Green Lane, Walsall, has also spent £54m to buy the remaining 60 per cent of trades website Checkatrade it did not already own following a deal in February.

Statutory operating profit rose 12 per cent to £27.5m – including a £1.7m favourable foreign exchange movement – as the group continued to invest in its marketing and growth initiatives and completed more repairs for customers.

Statutory profit before tax was £21.2m – down five per cent from £22.2m a year ago – due to an increase in interest and other charges as a result of investments and acquisitions. Founder and chief executive Richard Harpin said today: "I am delighted with the progress we made across our business in the first six months of this financial year."

"North America delivered outstanding organic growth, which will be further boosted by the acquisition of our largest ever policy book from Dominion Products



Richard Harpin

and Services. The UK made a key strategic acquisition – Help-Link – to give us a stronger foothold in the attractive boiler installations market. France and Spain developed key partner relationships and we continued to explore other partnership-based opportunities for international expansion.

"I am excited by the potential for HomeServe to become a global online home repairs and improvements platform, delivered via Checkatrade and Habitissimo where we already have a majority holding."

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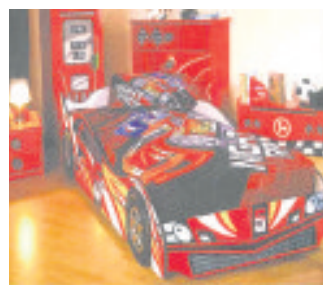
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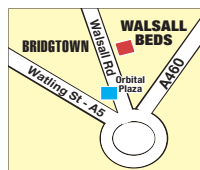
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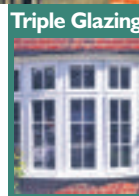
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The winners of Burntwood Town Council's primary schools art competition

BURNTWOOD Town Council's events committee have announced the winners of the primary schools art competition.

The winner from each category will have their artwork displayed on the front of the programmes for the Christmas festival on Saturday at Sankeys Corner, from 4 to 7pm, incorporating the Christmas tree lights switch-on at Boney Hay and Chasetown.

"The standard was very high, and it was

a difficult decision to pick out the winners," said the chairman of the town council, Pam Stokes, who was one of the judges.

The chairman also selected two of her favourites to grace the programme for her civic/carol service at St Johns Church, Chase Terrace, on December 17 at 3pm.

All the entrants' pictures will be on display in Burntwood Library until the Christmas decorations are taken down.

Gavin goes to war over defence budget

NEW Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson has suggested he could push the Government to increase defence spending as he took questions from the despatch box for the first time.

The South Staffordshire MP admitted he has yet to have a formal meeting with the Chancellor over the defence budget, but said he saw the current two per cent of GDP level of funding 'as a base, as against a ceiling'.

Mr Williamson, who was handed the key Cabinet position earlier this month, also told MPs that the RAF would continue to fly missions over Iraq and Syria 'for a good while more' to counter the threat of dispersed ISIS fighters. An eventful session in



Gavin Williamson at the despatch box

the Commons saw Mr Williamson warned of a Tory rebellion unless defence budgets were bolstered; confirm the UK's commitment to NATO and Trident; and attack Jeremy Corbyn's

Labour party for 'not believing' in the British Army.

He also announced that more personnel were being sent to Afghanistan to support the indigenous army.

Speaking at defence questions, Mr Williamson described concerns over new defence cuts as 'a very valuable point', and added: "I'm taking the opportunity to look at all the work that has been done and making my own judgment on this."

"What I want to do is to make sure that we have the arguments ready."

Pressed by shadow defence secretary Nia Griffith to tell the Chancellor that 'enough is enough' on spending cuts, Mr Williamson said it was 'a little bit rich' for Labour to lecture the Tories on defence, particularly a party whose leader 'doesn't believe in the British Army' or Trident.

IN BRIEF

Canal tidy-up

VOLUNTEERS will be tidying up the canal in Rugeley tomorrow (Friday). Meet in Leathermill Lane for a 9.30am start.

Church market

A CHRISTMAS market is being held at St Stephen's Church in Bideford Way, Cannock, on Saturday from 9.30am to 11.15am.

Vote for shops

TODAY (Thursday) is the last day for voting in the Best Retailers of Cannock Chase contest. Go to www.bestchasebusiness.co.uk

Tree switch-on

CHADSMOOR Methodist Church will be lighting up its Christmas tree and hosting a carol service tomorrow (Friday).

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Announcements must be supplied by 12noon on Monday For the same weeks publication.

County police foot £400k bill after terror attacks

Cadets sworn in at ceremony



Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis, front left, joins deputy Sue Arnold and other dignitaries – including Assistant Chief Constable Nick Adderley, and Stafford Borough Mayor Aidan Godfrey – at the graduation ceremony

MORE than 30 new police cadets were sworn in during a graduation ceremony in Stafford.

The county's Police and Crime Commissioner Matthew Ellis, his deputy Sue Arnold, along with Assistant Chief Constable Nick Adderley, and Chief Superintendent Elliott Sharrard-Williams, watched

31 cadets and five leaders take the oath.

The latest crop of recruits takes the county-wide total to 228.

Nick Adderley, Assistant Chief Constable, said: "I was proud to welcome these young adults into the policing family. It's encouraging to see so many."

POLICE were forced to find £400,000 to pay for officer overtime and extra staffing costs in Staffordshire following this year's terror attacks.

Officers were put on 12-hour shifts and guarded major landmarks such as Lichfield Cathedral after the terror threat level was raised to 'critical' in the wake of attacks in Manchester and London.

Chief Constable Gareth Morgan warned that the money had to come from the force's reserves – and was not covered by 'protected' counter-terrorism budgets.

He said: "We moved to critical twice over the summer, and the cost of that in Staffordshire – and to be able to give the visibility that we were required to do to iconic sites and cover all the things you would expect us to do and put resources in to reassure the community – was £400,000.

Extend

"That was out of our reserves. It is not part of our counter-terrorism resource, it is not a nationally funded issue.

"Staffordshire is a force with iconic sites we had to cover – to do that meant we had to extend people's working hours. There was lots of public commentary but that was a big chunk of public money."

West Midlands Police previously revealed it had to find £1 million to pay for more officers to patrol the streets following the atrocities.

Mr Morgan added: "Visible policing is the great challenge. The public want to see officers on the street, and I want officers to be on the street. There is a lot of science which says that foot patrol officers do not impact on crime but that is what the public is interested in, it is what the public wants, and it is what they are entitled to see.

"I am a firm believer that you tackle terrorism and serious organised crime, and other issues, by effectively policing neighbourhoods."



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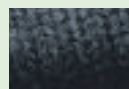
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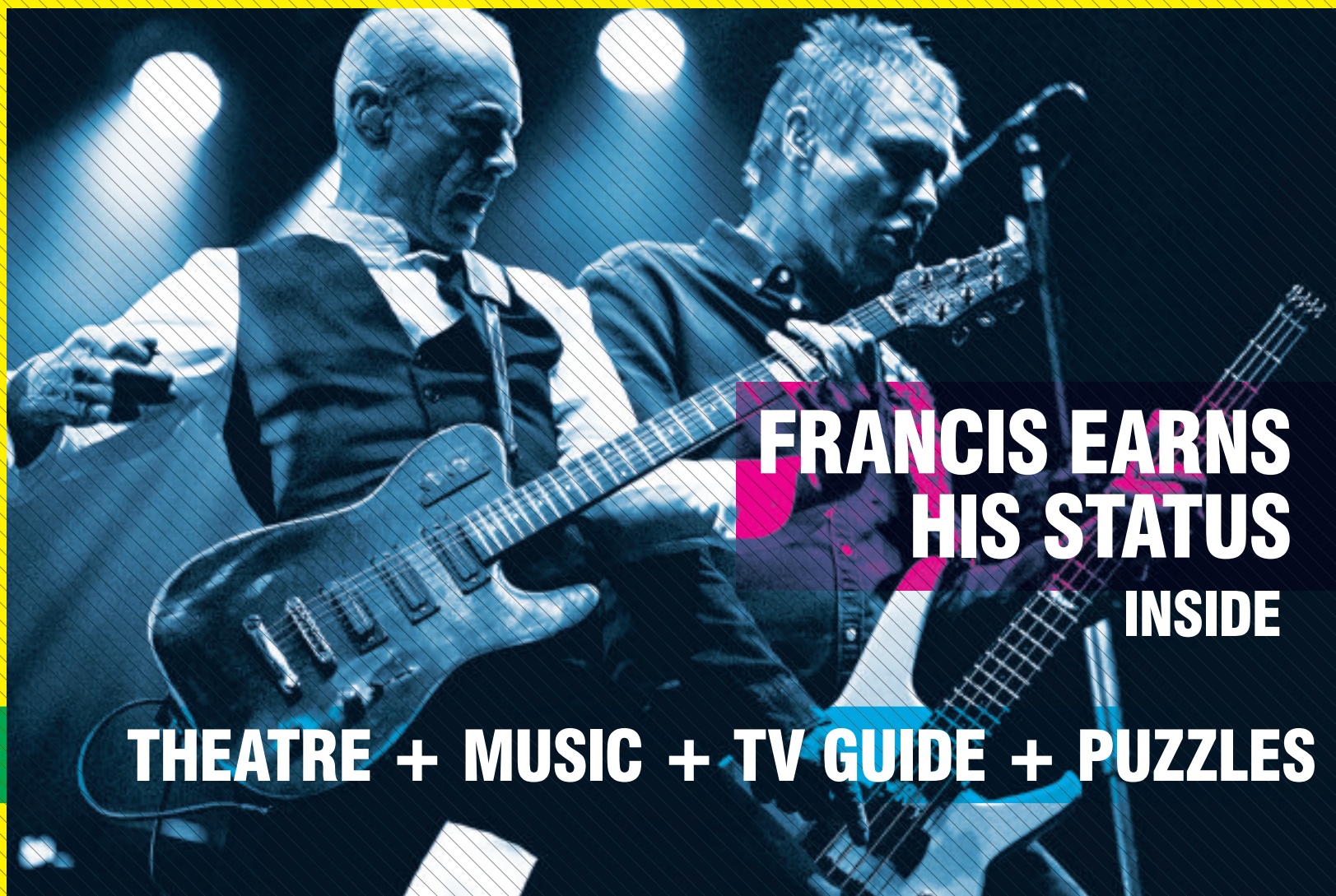
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Francis: It's not the same without Rick

There's only one place to start: the death of his bandmate of 50 years, Rick Parfitt. Francis doesn't mind. He knows he's got to talk about it, that Status Quo will forever be him and Rick, that their stories and history are forever linked.

And though he's chipper about being back on the road with Quo – they play Wolverhampton's Civic Hall on Sunday – he's dutiful and respectful on the subject of his late, great bandmate.

"It's been a challenging time and it's been confusing."

Rick's place has been taken by Richie Malone, the band's new touring guitarist. He's had a profound effect.

Francis says: "If you'd have said to me this young fella will make a lot of difference to the way the band feels and plays, I'd have said don't talk rubbish. People said it was all over and we weren't doing any more show. But things change. I didn't expect it to happen. We're enjoying the shows immensely. We've just got back from Australia and Dubai and apart from the jet lag that's been great.

"I'm looking forward to it all. I really did not expect to be in this position or feeling this way."

He realises he'll get stick from diehard Quo fans, that they'll resent him for moving on and not forever wearing black.

"I understand if people are thinking I'm a schmuck. But I don't want to apologise about feeling good about the band. I don't know why it's so good: maybe it's because there's something to prove. It's not the same as it was with Rick, it's just different. There's a certain vibe within the band.

"Maybe we'd become complacent. Rick's health issues were going on for a few years and that made things difficult. Perhaps that happens to all older bands."

He's conscious of growing older, of entering the autumn of his career. But he's proud to be on the road at the age of 68. He's still got the moves, still got the voice and still loves playing the songs that have stood the test of time.

"It all moves on. The Stones were once the most rebellious band in the world and now they're 75. They've survived.

"I'm sixty-bl***y-eight. But something else is going on. You can tell I'm chipper. My manager is in the desert somewhere. But when I speak with him I'm la la la.

"We're not sure what's next. We may do another rock album, which I said I would never do. This business is great at making you go the other way. You say you're not going to do this and that. As we get older, we're worried about dribbling, but we go back to being the young person we were. That insecure little show-off in me is trying to prove something.

"I look forward to the gigs much more. That makes me question was I not looking forward to them before. It's not the same without Rick. It can't be."

His memories of Rick's passing are vivid. "It started in Turkey. As much as he died on Christmas Eve, really, he died in front of us in Turkey. He was on the floor and the medics told me he'd gone. I uncrossed his feet, they were crossed over. I watched what those people were doing to him. Our relationship was well documented. It was frosty sometimes but generally it was quite good. The PA who was with him saved him in Turkey.

"It was really quite horrible what the

Still rocking – Francis says performing is not the same without Rick



medical profession did to bring him round. He left the room dead but by the time we were back in London, he was sitting up and having a cup of tea. But then it was clear there was something that was wrong. That was when I thought 'Oh no'. So we got the new boy in. Rick said: 'If I kick the bucket, get him in'. We laughed about it, that was the relationship we had."

The relationship between Francis and Richie took a while to develop. At first, Francis was frosty with the incoming, looking at him as though to ask what he was doing standing in his partner's place? But the ice slowly melted and the band moved on.

"It happens. We die and everything carries on. I've lost two aunts and an uncle recently. As soon as I come out the funeral, I go to the studio and carry on. But the thought was difficult, carrying on. As I said, something happened. Some people think we shouldn't carry on, but we had to."

He is amused at the man that he's become. Once a hellraiser and firmly anti-establishment, these days he sports an OBE and spends time in the garden. "Getting the OBE was a huge honour. If I'm really honest, I don't feel people like us deserve it. I think the midwife in Leeds does but not us. But we maintain the profile of the honours system. No one really is going to ask the nurse or the milkman what they think –

My best friends in showbiz are people like Roy Wood and Jeff Lynne

they don't get the media attention. The fact that Rick and I and various others in our business get them helps to raise the profile of the honours system."

He's unsure what the future holds. There may be more records and more tours, though they may take time out in 2018 to reassess and consider where they're going. If they do tour again, the Black Country and Birmingham will be high on their list of places to visit.

"I've said this before but my best friends in showbusiness are people like Roy Wood, Jeff Lynne, Robert Plant and a truck driver whose name I'm not going to tell you – and they're all from your neck of the woods. Everybody I know from the area is fabulous, genuine. There's also a couple of rasta guys who do the NEC. I see them occasionally, any of those people I meet, it's like it was only yesterday that we saw each other. I might not see them for years, but I consider them friends. I feel comfortable around your lot."

● For more entertainment news and reviews see The Ticket in your Express & Star every Friday.

Steps – new music after 17 years



Steps into the future with new album and party tour

It's been 20 years since Steps released their disco-tastic debut – and now they're back to celebrate with a big pop party at Arena Birmingham tomorrow (Friday).

Lisa Scott-Lee and Claire Richards are trying to work out who the Chancellor of the Exchequer was when they formed, 20 years ago, in 1997. A giggling Ian 'H' Watkins, sat behind them, tickles them. Swatting him away, Claire correctly answers 'Gordon Brown' to the delight of her bandmates, who fall about laughing at H's antics.

It's just one sign of the affinity retained by the group, who split acrimoniously at the turn of the millennium, when Claire and H wanted to form a duo. Since then things have been patched up, and the band reformed in 2011 for a Sky Living series and a string of concerts.

Now, more than five years on, with the exception of 39-year-old Claire, they have all celebrated their 40th birthdays, but that does little to deter their energy.

The five, completed by Lee Latchford-Evans and Faye Tozer, are delighted at the success of their first album proper in 17 years, Tears On The Dancefloor, and single Scared Of The Dark. They listened to that song's first play on the radio together – almost 20 years to the day after they gathered to hear their debut, 5, 6, 7, 8.

"It felt like we had started all over again," reflects H. "New music the key for us to have a new energy with Steps," says Faye, "because we couldn't have asked the fans to come and see us again with just the old songs. I think it has breathed new life into us."

The Party On The Dancefloor tour also goes to the Genting Arena on December 9.

Strictly star Joanne is back in a flash



Flashdance The Musical returns to the UK for the first time since 2011, starring Strictly Come Dancing favourite Joanne Clifton and pop star Ben Adams, at Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre from Tuesday to Saturday, December 9.

Strictly champion Joanne won both the main Strictly glitter ball, with Ore Oduba last year, and the Christmas Special in 2015 with Harry Judd.

Joanne made her musical theatre debut in Irving Berlin musical Face The Music, for which she was nominated for an award. She followed this up as Marilyn Monroe in the Norma Jeane The

Musical and then trod the boards as Millie Dillmount in the UK Tour of Thoroughly Modern Millie.

Of her role as Alex Owens in the UK Tour of Flashdance, Joanne said: "This is just another dream come true. I think everyone in the world, whether dancer or non-dancer, as soon as they hear What a Feeling, remember that iconic scene at the end of the film and I'm so incredibly lucky that I get to do that every night in a UK tour. I can once again sing and act alongside dancing."

Ben who will join Joanne on stage as Nick Hurley, at 16 became the lead singer of the band a1, who

racked up 10 million record sales, including two UK number ones. He is now a successful songwriter, producer and actor. He also reached the final of Celebrity Big Brother.

Of taking to the stage in Flashdance, he says: "It's amazing to be part of such an iconic story, and as an 80's child I was brought up on this music."

Flashdance The Musical is based on the hit movie and tells the story of Alex, a welder by day and 'flashdancer' by night, who will not give up on her dream of becoming a professional dancer.

JAWS are ready to bite your Brum again

They impressed with their set at the Beyond The Tracks Festival earlier this year, and now Birmingham dream pop trio JAWS are giving home town fans another chance to see them live.

The former Halesowen College students are closing their tour with a set of swirling guitar rock at Digbeth's O2 Institute tomorrow (Friday), with Leeds indie outfit Marsicans and London band Social Contract.

JAWS are Connor Schofield on vocals and guitar, Alex Hudson on guitars and Eddy Geach on drums. A year ago they released their second album Simplicity, the follow up to 2014 debut Be Slowly. Also tomorrow, The Charlatans are at Wolverhampton Civic Hall while Good Charlotte play the O2 Academy. Then the Academy hosts Scouting For Girls on Saturday, with Gorillaz at the Birmingham Arena.

Prankster Lee is a Serious Joker

The Prime Minister's least favourite comedian is at Dudley Town Hall tomorrow night (Friday). Prankster Lee Nelson caused a sensation at the Conservative Party Conference when he approached Theresa May during her speech and handed her a mock P45, claiming it was on behalf of Boris Johnson. Lee Nelson, real name Simon Brodtkin, brings his Serious Joker tour to the Black Country, with his new suited and booted look after ditching the baseball cap and sportswear.



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Tandoori Special Mix	£7.25
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Balti Tandoori Chicken	£5.95
Chicken	£4.95
Meat or Prawn	£5.25
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Balti Tikka

Chicken	£5.95
Lamb	£5.95
Balti King Prawn	£4.95
Balti Keema	£4.60
Balti Special Mixed	£6.95
Balti Tandoori Special	£7.95

Balti Tandoori Chicken & Tikka	£6.25
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Lamb or Prawn	£5.50
King Prawn Bhuna	£6.50
Chicken or Lamb Tikka	£6.50
Tandoori Chicken Bhuna	£5.95
Tandoori King Prawn Bhuna	£6.95

Dupazza Dishes

Chicken	£4.95
Meat or Prawn	£5.50
King Prawn	£6.50
Chicken Tikka	£5.95
Tandoori Chicken	£5.95
Tandoori King Prawn	£7.25

Danaak Dishes

Chicken	£4.95
Meat or Prawn	£5.25
King Prawn Dansak	£6.95
Tandoori Chicken Dansak	£5.95
Chicken Tikka Dansak	£5.95

Bengal Dishes

Chicken	£5.50
Meat or Prawn	£5.95
King Prawn Bengal	£6.95
Tandoori Chicken Bengal	£5.95
Chicken Tikka Bengal	£5.95

Madras Dishes

Chicken	£4.75
Meat or Prawn	£5.25
King Prawn Madras	£6.25
Tandoori Chicken Madras	£5.95
Chicken Tikka Madras	£5.95

Vindaloo Dishes Very hot

Chicken	£4.75
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King Prawn Vindaloo	£6.25

Tandoori Chicken Vindaloo	£5.60
Chicken Tikka Vindaloo	£5.95

Pathia Dishes

Chicken	£4.75
Meat or Prawn	£5.25
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Tandoori Chicken Pathia	£5.95
Chicken Tikka Pathia	£5.95

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King Prawn	£6.25
Tandoori Chicken	£5.95
Chicken Tikka	£5.95

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Tandoori King Prawn Biryani	£7.95
Tandoori Special Mixed Biryani	£7.25
Chicken Biryani	£5.95
Meat or Prawn Biryani	£5.95
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ENTERTAINMENT

Friday 1st December - Donna Keen - Motown & Soul

Friday 8th December - Emma Jane - Female Vocalist

Friday 15th December - The Almost - 60s Band

Friday 22nd December - Bryony Dodkingson

Friday 29th December - Sadie Marie

sky SPORTS

The Wheatsheaf Inn, Wolverhampton Road, Laney Green, Wolverhampton, WV10 7LU

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CHOICE



Julie Walters

Coastal Railways with Julie Walters (Channel 4, 8pm)
The actress and national treasure's second journey takes her from Newcastle upon Tyne to Edinburgh by high-speed train. Along the way, she stops off at the picturesque coastal village of Alnmouth, nicknamed the Tobermory of Northumberland. Here, Julie discovers where the phrase Keep Calm and Carry On originated, at a bookshop in the village, before visiting the world's biggest gannet colony - Bass Rock in the Firth of Forth. Next, she goes out to sea with a lobster breeder, and when she reaches her final destination, the Scottish capital, she discovers the connection between the railway and the world-famous Balmoral Hotel.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.25** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** Fern Britton Meets Stefanie Reid. **11.00** Regional Programme. **12.15** BBC News. Weather. **12.30** Fog It! (R) **12.50** Mary Berry's Country House Secrets. (R) **1.50** FA Cup Final Score. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.55** Blue Planet II. (R) **5.55** BBC News.
6.10 **Regional Programme.**
6.20 **Countryfile.** Helen Skelton and Sean Fletcher explore the Cleveland Way. Helen meets a group of marathon runners and a scout team who have taken responsibility for a stretch of the area, while Sean finds out about a local oral history project and joins a wildlife photographer documenting leaping salmon. Plus, Tom Heap reports on the impact of climate change and Adam Henson finds out how to become a farmer without owning a farm.
7.20 **Strictly Come Dancing: The Results.** Tess Daly and Claudia Winklerman reveal the results of the Musicals Week viewers' vote. Featuring music from Beverley Knight, Amber Riley and Cassidy Janson.
8.00 **Blue Planet II.** Footage of animals that live on the coast, including sea lions working in packs to hunt tuna in the shallows and moray eels that venture out of the water to seek out food on dry rocks. Puffins must brave predators to bring a mouthful of food back to their young and king penguins go without food for a month while they moult. Plus, footage of the bizarre Leaping Blenny, a fish that hates the water.
9.00 **Howards End.** Margaret resolves to uphold her engagement, while Helen leaves for Europe with no explanation. Henry proposes a plan to resolve the issues at Howards End. Last in the series.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 **Regional Programme.**
10.30 **Match of the Day 2.** Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Manchester City v West Ham United at the Etihad Stadium and Bournemouth v Southampton at the Vitality Stadium.
11.30 **Ronny Chieng: International Student.**
11.55 **Weather for the Week Ahead.**
12.00 BBC News.

BBC2

7.05 Gardeners' World. (R) **7.35** The Secret History of the British Garden. (R) **8.35** Countryfile. (R) **9.30** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.00** Food & Drink. (R) **11.30** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Live Snooker: UK Championship. Coverage of the fifth day at the Barbican Centre in York.
6.00 **MOTD: FA Cup Highlights.** Manish Bhasin introduces action from the second round, as the remaining 40 lower league and non-league sides looked to move a step closer to a potentially lucrative and glamorous tie in the third round.
7.00 **Turkey with Simon Reeve.** In the second half of the journey, Simon travels along the Black Sea Coast to the capital of Ankara and the Northern Highlands, witnessing first hand the aftermath of fighting in Kurdish areas and meeting a conservationist attempting to preserve the region's brown bears. He then returns to Istanbul, where he takes part in a popular TV series set in the palace of the Ottoman Sultans. (R)
8.00 **Robot Wars.** Dara Ó Briain and Angela Scanlon present the grand final, which features the biggest ever Robot Wars battle. One of the six places in the last round remains free, and to decide who gets it, all the contestants who came second or third in the past five episodes return to battle to the death. The winner in this Ten Robot Rumble will have to face the five episode winners through a series of group battles and knockout rounds before the final showdown to decide which machine will be crowned series champion. Last in the series.
9.00 **Expedition Volcano.** Part two of two. The team takes a helicopter to the crater of an active volcano that is surrounded by forests which provide cover for a number of armed militant groups.
10.00 **Snowfall.** Franklin discovers that it was Lenny who came after him, and is forced to fight back or lose everything. Lucia is powerless to stop Ramiro taking over everything she has created.
10.45 **Snowfall.** Franklin finds success comes at a price. Last in the series.
11.40 **Snooker: UK Championship.**
12.30 **Snooker: UK Championship Extra.**
2.30 **Sign Zone: Question Time.** (R) **3.30** **Holby City.** (R) **4.30** **This Is BBC Two.**

ITV

6.00 CITY: Sooty. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Super 4. (R) **7.00** Mission: Emplayable. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Thunderbirds Are Go. (R) **7.30** Scrambled!: Scrambled! **7.35** Scrambled!: The Tom and Jerry Show. (R) **7.50** Scrambled!: Ben 10. **8.10** Scrambled!: Mr Bean: The Animated Series. (R) **8.30** Scrambled!: Make It Pop. **9.00** Scrambled!: Wishfart. (R) **9.25** ITV News. **9.30** Australian Wilderness with Ray Mears. **10.00** Peston on Sunday. **10.55** The Martin Lewis Money Show. (R) **11.25** Save Money: Good Food. (R) **12.00** Tipping Point. (R) **1.00** ITV News: Weather. **1.05** The X Factor: Live Final. (R) **3.10** Midsomer Murders. (R) **3.55** How to Spend It: Well at Christmas with Phillip Schofield. (R)
6.05 **Regional Programme:** Weather.
6.15 **ITV News:** Weather.
6.30 **The Chase Celebrity Special.** Greg Wise, Denise Lewis, Mark Pougatch and Gina Yashere answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to secure a cash prize for charity. Presented by Bradley Walsh.
7.25 **The X Factor: Live Final.** Dermot O'Leary introduces the climax of this year's talent contest. The results of last night's performance at Wembley Arena are in and one of the three finalists has been eliminated from the contest. The two remaining acts must give one final performance to impress the viewing public and the judges, before one of them is crowned as this year's winner. Last in the series.
9.00 **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!** Ant and Dec present the celebrity challenge, as the famous faces continue their ordeal in the Australian jungle.
10.30 **ITV News:** Weather.
10.45 **Peston on Sunday.** Political magazine, presented by Robert Peston and Allegra Stratton. Last in the series. (R)
11.45 **Car Crash Britain: Caught on Camera.** Road accidents and near-misses, including a woman who had a close shave when a car ploughed into her office, parallel parking calamities and a new driver with no beginners' luck. (R)
12.35 **Jackpot247.** **3.00** **Motorsport UK.** **3.50** **ITV Nightscreen.**

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Kevin Can Wait. **6.45** Kevin Can Wait. **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** Paul Hollywood: A Baker's Life. (R) **1.00** F1 2017: Hamilton's Record Breaking Season. **2.00** The Simpsons. (R) **2.30** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.25** The Simpsons. (R) **3.55** Film: Arthur Christmas. (2011) Animated comedy, with the voice of James McAvoy. **5.50** Film: Shrek. (2001) Animated comedy, with the voice of Mike Myers.
7.30 **Channel 4 News.**
8.00 **Coastal Railways with Julie Walters.** The actress travels from Newcastle to Edinburgh by high speed train. Along the way, she stops off at the coastal town of Alnmouth, discovers where the phrase Keep Calm and Carry On originated, visits the world's biggest gannet colony, and goes out to sea with a lobster breeder. When she reaches her destination, she discovers the connection between the railway and the famous Balmoral Hotel.
9.00 **Film: Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol.** (2011) Secret agent Ethan Hunt and his team are implicated in a bombing at the Kremlin, forcing the American president to declare them fugitives. The spies plan to clear their name by abducting the real terrorist, which leads them into a pursuit around the globe. However, Hunt cannot be sure his colleagues are trustworthy. Action adventure sequel, starring Tom Cruise, Jeremy Renner, Simon Pegg and Paula Patton.
11.35 **Film: I, Frankenstein.** (2014) The scientist's monster is caught up in a war between supernatural beings who want the secret of his immortality. Fantasy adventure, with Aaron Eckhart and Bill Nighy.
1.15 **Film: Morning Glory.** (2010) Comedy, starring Rachel McAdams. **3.00** Trump: An American Dream. A new wife, a hit TV show and the ultimate prize in world politics. Last in the series. (R) **3.55** Gillette World Sport. Including a profile of fixed-gear cyclist Patrick Seabase. **4.25** **KO TV Boxing Weekly.** **4.50** **Mobile 1.** The Grid. (R) **5.20** Kirstie's Handmade Treasures. (R) **5.35** Countdown. With Richard Madeley in Dictionary Corner. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Little Princess. **6.10** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **6.20** Poppy Cat. (R) **6.35** Wispser. (R) **6.40** Milkshake! Monkey. (R) **6.45** Milkshake! Bopping About. (R) **6.50** Simon. (R) **6.55** Peppa Pig. (R) **7.00** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.15** Digby Dragon. **7.30** Fireman Sam. (R) **7.45** Olly the Little White Van. (R) **7.55** Paw Patrol. (R) **11.00** Noddy: Toyland Detective. (R) **8.25** Shimmer and Shine. (R) **8.40** Peppa Pig. (R) **8.50** Peppa Pig. (R) **8.55** FIA Formula E. **10.40** Football on 5: The Championship. (R) **11.25** **Film: Finding Father Christmas.** (2016) **1.10** **Film: The Christmas Secret.** (2014) Drama, starring Bethany Joy Lenz. **2.55** **Film: On the 12th Day of Christmas.** (2015) **3.55** **News Update.** **4.00** **Film: On the 12th Day of Christmas.** (2015) **Concluded.**
4.45 **Film: Northpole: Open for Christmas.** (2015) **Premiere.** Festive fantasy sequel, starring Bailey Madison. **5.45** **5 News Update.** **5.50** **Film: Northpole: Open for Christmas.** (2015) **Concluded.**
6.30 **Film: Call Me Claus.** (2001) A cynical female TV producer hires a man to play Santa Claus in a programme. He turns out to be the real Father Christmas, and has come on a special mission to melt her icy heart and persuade her to take over the reindeer reins as the new face of the festive season. Family drama, starring Whoopi Goldberg, Nigel Hawthorne, Brian Mitchell and Victor Garber.
8.15 **Aviva Premiership Rugby Highlights.** Mark Durden-Smith and David Flatman present action from the 10th round of matches, including Northampton Saints v Newcastle Falcons, Exeter Chiefs v Bath, and Harlequins v Saracens.
8.55 **5 News Weekend.**
9.00 **The Paul O'Grady Story.** Profile of the talk show host, exploring his formative years as a social worker and showbiz career appearing as both himself and his drag act after ego Lily Savage. (R)
10.35 **When Reality TV Goes Horribly Wrong.** Vicky Pattison narrates a countdown of disastrous incidents on reality shows, featuring Nikki Graham, Bianca Gascoigne, Paul Danan and Jessie Cave.
1.30 **Lip Sync Battle UK: Carol Vorderman v Martin Kemp.** (R) **1.55** **SuperCasino.** **3.10** **Bargain-Loving Brits in Blackpool.** (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Four
7.00 Great Continental Railway Journeys
7.30 University Challenge
8.00 Classic Quartets at the BBC
9.00 Merry Christmas
10.40 Britain's Wild Places
11.00 **Film: Taxi Tehran.** (2015) **12.20** **Classic Quartets at the BBC**
1.20 **Natural World**
3.00 **Close**
ITV2
11.25 **Take Me Out**
12.40 **You've Been Framed!** at Christmas
1.10 **Film: Christmas Mr Bean**
1.45 **The Smurfs: A Christmas Carol**
2.15 **Film: Beethoven's Christmas Adventure** (2011)
3.15 **FYI Daily**
3.20 **Film: Beethoven's Christmas Adventure** (2011)
4.05 **I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here!**
5.10 **Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang** (2010)
6.15 **FYI Daily**
6.20 **Film: Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang** (2010)
7.20 **Film: The Amazing Spider-Man** (2012)
8.20 **FYI Daily**
8.25 **Film: The Amazing Spider-Man** (2012)
10.00 **Film: Family Guy**
10.30 **I'm a Celebrity: Extra Camp**
11.35 **Family Guy**
12.30 **American Dad!**
1.30 **Release the Hounds**
2.25 **Teleshopping**
5.55 **ITV2 Nightscreen**
ITV3
11.30 **FYI Daily**
11.35 **Film: Santa Claus: The Movie** (1985)
12.40 **Film: Columbo: Death Hits the Jackpot** (1991)
2.45 **Agatha Christie's Marple**
4.50 **Midsomer Murders**
9.00 **Endeavour**
11.00 **Lewis**
1.00 **The Knock**
3.00 **Sherlock Holmes: The Sign of Four**
4.50 **Judge Judy**
5.30 **ITV3 Nightscreen**
ITV4
11.30 **Film: Superman** (1978)
12.30 **FYI Daily**
12.35 **Film: Superman** (1978)
2.25 **Film: The Dam Busters** (1954)
3.25 **FYI Daily**
3.30 **Film: The Dam Busters** (1954)
5.00 **British Touring Car Championship Highlights**
7.05 **Film: Nacho Libre** (2006)
8.05 **FYI Daily**
8.10 **Film: Nacho Libre** (2006)
9.00 **Film: The Dictator** (2012)
10.00 **FYI Daily**
10.05 **Film: The Dictator** (2012)
10.40 **Film: Hot Tub Time Machine 2** (2015)
11.40 **FYI Daily**
11.45 **Film: Hot Tub Time Machine 2** (2015)
12.30 **Film: Mars Attacks!** (1996)
1.30 **FYI Daily**
1.35 **Film: Mars Attacks!** (1996)
2.40 **ITV4 Nightscreen**
3.00 **Teleshopping**
E4
11.00 **Made in Chelsea**
12.00 **Don't Tell the Bride**
1.00 **Film: Marmaduke** (2010)
2.45 **Rude(ish) Tube Shorts**
3.00 **The Goldbergs**
4.30 **The Big Bang Theory**
9.00 **Film: Ted** (2012)
11.05 **The Big Bang Theory**
12.05 **Gogglebox**
1.05 **Rude Tube**
2.10 **First Dates**
3.05 **Rude Tube**
3.35 **Hollyoaks**

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ENTERTAINMENT

24th November.....Mario - Solo Artist

2nd December.....Joe Wheelan (X Factor)

16th December.....Visable Rhythm Disco

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY

The Christmas Calendar, Channel 5, 3.45pm

Emily has just taken over her grandmother's failing bakery and discovers that if she doesn't attract enough customers by Christmas, she will lose it. Finding new customers proves tough, but when she receives a handmade Advent calendar from a secret admirer, the local residents become obsessed with finding out the identity of the sender. Festive romantic drama, starring Laura Bell Bundy. (2017)

TUESDAY

Call Me Claus, Channel 5, 3.40pm

A cynical female TV producer hires a man to play Santa Claus in a programme. He turns out to be the real Father Christmas, and has come on a special mission to melt her icy heart and persuade her to take over the reindeer reins as the new face of the festive season. Family drama, starring Whoopi Goldberg, Nigel Hawthorne and Victor Garber. (2001)



Brick Mansions, Thursday, Channel 5, 9pm

WEDNESDAY

Spirit of Christmas, Channel 5, 2pm

When brokering the sale of a haunted inn, a lawyer meets a charming ghost who lives there, and she ends up agreeing to help him discover the truth behind his death. Romantic drama, starring Jen Lilley and Thomas Beaudoin. (2015)

THURSDAY

Brick Mansions, Channel 5, 9pm

A ghetto of Detroit is walled off from the rest of the city to contain its criminal population. A cop out for revenge and an ex-convict trying to save his kidnapped girlfriend are forced to team up to stop a drug kingpin carrying out a plan that could destroy the entire city. US remake of French action adventure District 13, starring Paul Walker. (2014)

FRIDAY

Christmas Under Wraps, Channel 5, 3.45pm

When a doctor fails to get the position she wanted, she ends up moving to a remote Alaskan town and unexpectedly ends up finding love and happiness, and discovers that the small town is hiding a big holiday secret. Drama, starring Candace Cameron Bure, David O'Donnell and Robert Pine. (2014)

Kirstie gets in the festive spirit in new one-off show

What started out as a pleasant diversion is turning into a national institution.

In 2009, Kirstie Allsopp - who was previously best known for her property expertise thanks to the Show Location Location Location - fronted Kirstie's Handmade Home, in which she decorated her new Devon house with craft items she made herself.

The format has since widened to encompass Kirstie's Handmade Britain, Kirstie's Vintage Home, Fill Your House for Free, and several other shows, including this now annual festive series.

In the meantime, Allsopp is also the face of The Handmade Fair, which takes place every September at Hampton Court, and offers visitors an opportunity to meet makers and buy the materials needed to produce their own crafty products.

It's certainly a far cry from selling properties. In the years since her first dabble into the world of the handmade, crafts have really risen

in popularity, with thousands across the country taking up knitting, crochet, sewing, baking, woodwork and more.

Did Allsopp's show and others along similar lines inspire folk, or did they reflect an already growing trend that began as the public attempted to find ways to save money in an uncertain economic climate? That's a topic still up for discussion, but whatever the answer, it seems that for the foreseeable future, crafts are here to stay.

For Allsopp, taking part in the programmes has turned a casual interest into a passion.

"I think it's always interested me, but I never thought I was capable of doing it," she says of the crafting world. "So I would buy it, I'd see something that was made with love and care, and I would purchase it. I never really thought I was capable of that."

"I was a very early advocate of the immaculate Christmas, making a big effort with that kind of stuff. But it was a surprising discovery for me

that I was capable of making things myself."

However, she does admit defeat in some areas, but thinks that a fear of failure shouldn't put people off trying new things.

"The ones that I can't get good at involve knitting, crocheting, cross-stitching - I just can't feel my way towards them," she admits. "But a lot of the crafts are made much, much more difficult on the show by the time aspect, and by having the cameras there."

"There are times when you see me throwing a wobbly, but the truth is, I'm throwing a wobbly at the process of being filmed while under this kind of pressure. That is what gets to you - because you are doing this flower arrangement, for example, and someone will say 'Kirstie, can you talk about what you're feeling now?'"

Hopefully no wobblers will be thrown in the first of the latest run, which sees Allsopp get the ball rolling with a detailed handmade fairy and delicate diorama baubles.



Kirstie's Handmade Christmas, Tuesday, Channel 4, 8pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY

The Real Marigold on Tour BBC1, 9pm

The familiar faces are back, but this time they're not heading for India - instead, they're hitting the road for a variety of geriatric adventures. Each destination will be visited by a different group, but they all have two things in common - to learn how countries across the globe treat their pensioners, and to find out if they could live there themselves. It's a four-part run that begins when Miriam Margolyes, Wayne Sleep, Bobby George and Rosemary Shrager travel to Chengdu, the capital of China's Sichuan Province. More than 14 million people live there, and the population is ageing fast. It isn't Miriam's first trip to the country, but she struggles with the food while all of the travellers find the language barrier rather difficult to surmount.

TUESDAY

Extraordinary Teens: My Gay Life Channel 4, 10pm

There are shades of Richard Linklater's acclaimed, Oscar-winning drama Boyhood to this documentary - except this film charts real events in the life of the child we are watching grow up before our very eyes. The project began in 2011, when cameras first captured a then 11-year-old boy called Billy. Over

the course of five years, the film-makers followed the youngster, charting his teenage life. The result is a portrait not just of one boy, but of childhood, adolescence and family.

WEDNESDAY

Mary Berry's Country House Secrets BBC1, 8pm

Mary visits Powderham Castle in Devon to spend time with the Earl and Countess of Devon and their two young children, who are reinventing the Earldom for the 21st century. Mary's time with the family reveals stories of romance and tragedy as she discovers more of this extraordinary home. In the castle's historic kitchen, Mary prepares a Devon cream tea, before making a delicate peach posset for a Midsummer Eve woodland party the family are throwing to celebrate their two year anniversary at the castle.

THURSDAY

Great Canal Journeys Channel 4, 8pm

Timothy West and Prunella

Scales return to Wales to explore a canal that has eluded them for more than half a century. The Monmouthshire and Brecon canal is cut off from the rest of Britain's network of waterways by the Black Mountains, and meanders its way through the tranquil Usk valley. Along the way the couple visit the old ironworks at Blaenavon, where children as young as five were once put to work, and lend a hand with some lock restoration work. They also explore the 15th-century castle at Tretower - which is rumoured to be haunted.

FRIDAY

Brunel: The Man Who Built Britain Channel 5, 8pm

Victorian visionary Isambard Kingdom Brunel is still regarded as one of Britain's greatest ever engineers - which is probably just the way he'd like it. In this two-part documentary, Rob Bell takes closer look at both Brunel's extraordinary achievements and the complex personality that drove them, and discovers that he was obsessed



The Real Marigold on Tour, Monday, BBC1, 9pm

with public acclaim. He would also stop at nothing to bring his projects to fruition - as well as risking his own life, hundreds of people were killed while working for him. In the first episode, Rob examines Brunel's first major project, the Thames Tunnel, which is still in use today as part of the London Overground rail. Construction began in 1825, under the direction of Brunel's father Marc, while Isambard was appointed chief engineer at the age of just 19.

The Year in Music 2017

BBC2, 9pm

Last year, most of the music retrospectives seemed to focus on the big names we'd lost in 2016, including David Bowie, Prince and Leonard Cohen. But hopefully, this end-of-the-year round-up will prove to be a more celebratory affair as Claudia Winkleman and Clara Amfo look back at the musical highlights from the past 12 months, including the best albums, the biggest artists and some of the most unforgettable performances. Among the stars offering their take on 2017 are the Foo Fighters, Liam Gallagher, Stormzy, Nile Rodgers, Dua Lipa, Nick Grimshaw, Mistajam, and Jo Whiley, while Rag 'n' Bone Man obliges with an exclusive performance. And just to confirm who's had a good year, the winners of the 2017 BBC Music Awards will be announced.



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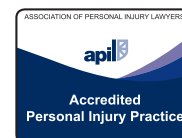


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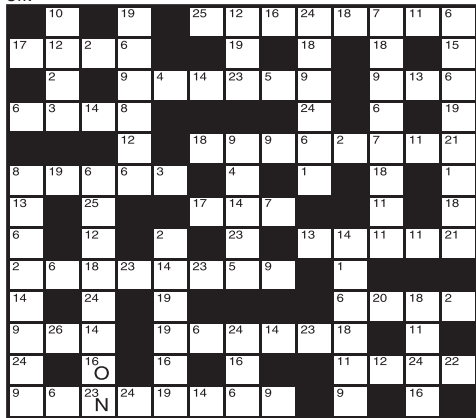


BRAIN GYM

No.458

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	O	A	J	B	P	M	D	W	Z	T	S	G	I
14	U	L	E	H	F	C	R	N	K	V	Y	Q	X

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.

Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Lay off the wine (4)
3. Agitated girl with unusually neat figure (8)
8. Puts away in great style (4)
9. One way of saying one doesn't like it (8)
11. Progressed with amorous overtures? (4,8)
13. Concerning bets on races (6)
14. Walk slowly along the street with a list (6)
17. One of the smoothest parts of the course (7,5)
20. Remained and gave personal service (6,2)
21. Something final to any buffoon (4)
22. Threatening to re-adjust my ration (8)
23. Bank of Scotland (4)

Down

1. Vessels pilots take in the morning (8)
2. Keep changing dialect (7)
4. Always come up about six to refresh (6)
5. It provides an opportunity for advanced theatrical work (5,5)
6. A leading publication? (5)
7. A misshapen nose ages (4)
10. Simple way in which the affluent live (4,6)
12. Learnt by arrangement in Malawi (8)
15. One pair moved out of doors (4,3)
16. People enter for this sort of sport (6)
18. A joining of hands in marriage or work (5)
19. In tennis Wimbledon is one way to make progress (4)

Quick Clues:

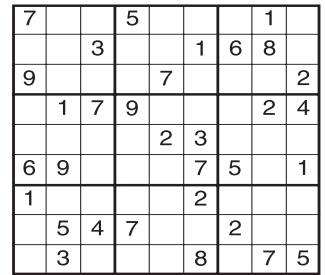
Across

1. Image (4)
3. Set going (8)
8. Row (4)
9. Promontory (8)
11. Falsify (12)
13. Topics (6)
14. Fitting (6)
17. Betterment (12)
20. Baffle (8)
21. Despicable (4)
22. Scornful (8)
23. Dam across a river (4)

Down

1. Familiar (8)
2. Superintend (7)
4. Joyous (6)
5. Manufacturing (10)
6. Once more (5)
7. Whirlpool (4)
10. Insubordinate (10)
12. Majesty (8)
15. Archbishop (7)
16. Woodworker (6)
18. Lesser (5)
19. Frozen (4)

Sudoku



Fill in the grid above so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

1	5	8	7	6	4	2	3	9
4	9	2	8	3	1	6	7	5
6	7	3	9	2	5	1	8	4
7	1	5	6	8	3	9	4	2
8	4	6	1	9	2	7	5	3
3	2	9	5	4	7	8	1	6
2	3	7	4	1	6	5	9	8
9	6	1	3	5	8	4	2	7
5	8	4	2	7	9	3	6	1

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Obsolent; 9 Isolate; 10 Lisle; 11 Hindi; 12 Dentist; 13 Impend; 15 Scorer; 18 Good day; 20 Lyric; 22 Least; 23 Leisure; 24 Secretaries. Down: 2 Brown; 3 Ovation; 4 Emends; 5 Colon; 6 Nastier; 7 Nightingale; 8 Test cricket; 14 Profane; 16 Collier; 17 Eyelet; 19 Deter; 21 Rouse. QUICK - Across: 1 Furthermore; 9 Stirrup; 10 Given; 11 Anale; 12 Ontario; 13 Levity; 15 Asleep; 18 Surplus; 20 Trait; 22 Edict; 23 Elation; 24 Undertaking. Down: 2 Unite; 3 Torrent; 4 Employ; 5 Might; 6 Reverie; 7 Established; 8 Incompetent; 14 Version; 16 Set-back; 17 Assent; 19 Lithe; 21 Alien.

Quiz

1. Whose husband was King Prasutagus?
2. Of which country is the Orszaggyules the national assembly?
3. Which heavyweight boxer collapsed after his defeat by Herbie Hide?
4. Which Mr Moto star was born Laszlo Loewenstein?
5. Where was the first Test match between England and Australia played in 1880?
6. Who is the Greek counterpart of the Roman Jupiter?
7. In which country did kung fu originate?
8. Which fruit comes from the plant Rubus idaeus?
9. Which condition was treated by the Kenny method?
10. Who won a director's Oscar for The Last Emperor?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Dyslexia or alexia; 2 A bird; 3 The Wombles; 4 Elvis Costello; 5 William McKinley; 6 Parrot; 7 Dawn French; 8 Films; 9 Asteroid; 10 Sir Lancelot.

Niner: CAVERNOUS

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

51381 gives a colour,
87114 gives a second colour,
9612 gives coloured.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

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of wonder;
Star of
light



LICHFIELD
CATHEDRAL

Follow our Christmas Journey

A taste of quality Indian cuisine

Famed for its horn dance and its Best Kept Village success, Abbots Bromley has another thing worth putting it on the map – the Royal Ruchi restaurant.

This year, parishioners tasted double success in the large village category for East Staffordshire and the Community Council of Staffordshire's trophy for the whole county. And, to celebrate, they had a sample of what was on offer at the Bagot Street eatery with a six-course taster menu.

While the traditional horn dance dates back to the Middle Ages, the Royal Ruchi has only just over a decade of service to the village to fall back upon. It has a country cottage feel, with beams across the ceiling and has a subtle warm colour scheme.

INDULGE

Owner Rafique Chowdhury has 30-plus years experience within the industry, having previously owned Saleem Bagh in Cannock and the Zafroni restaurants in both Cannock and Birmingham.

Its tasting menu is designed to increase the knowledge of the average Indian foodie while at the same time enhancing the Indian culinary experience. It allows the diner to sit back and not worry about what to choose from the menu, but instead to anticipate and indulge in the next offering.

My husband and I were greeted by Mr Chowdhury and his engaging staff and we were escorted to our table. Our welcome drinks of a glass of lemon sherbet and gin topped with Prosecco made the perfect start.

The first course presented to us was the Amuse Bouche, a spiced masala chicken soup with dhal puri – described as a mother's fresh homemade breakfast item cooked on Saturday mornings in the homes of Delhi. It was served with soft puffed bread filled with



Royal Ruchi in Abbots Bromley



The lamb course was a highlight of the evening

mildly spiced lentils – one of my favourites from the evening. For the second course, subz trio consisted of three small starter samples, namely chilli paneer – cubes of cottage cheese tossed with chilli; gol gappa – a crowd-pleasing Indian street food snack and aloo tikka – mashed potato patties mixed with spices, a north Indian delicacy found in the cafe-style eateries. We were pleasantly surprised by both.

Fish was the third course, comprising pan-grilled fillet of sea bass served on a bed of Goan creamy cheese spinach. The presentation was subtle, yet stunning

and the sea bass was cooked to perfection. Next up was a sample of three different chicken options served with a salad mix. Murgh dhalcha – delicately spiced chicken cutlets; malia tikka – Tandoori cooked chicken supreme and Hariyali tikka – chicken breast rubbed with an intoxicating paste. Again all three were thoroughly enjoyed.

We were next presented with the lamb course, their signature supreme carved Maharaja roast lamb, marinated in Mughal spices, served with moong chana daal, rice and freshly baked Tandoori bread. It looked

and tasted magnificent – the star of the evening for us.

But there was more! The dessert was served on a slate plate, and consisted of three mini puds; rose gulab jamun – a berry sized sphere soaked in rose flavoured sugar syrup; tusha shinni – a lightly spiced, soft, sweet dessert, a recipe passed down from the chef's ancestors and sweet caramel ice cream.

The food and service was quality and Mr Chowdhury's passion to showcase all that was on offer was evident. Book at Royal Ruchi on 01283 840008.

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Three-bedroomed detached bungalow in sought-after spot

This individually designed detached bungalow in a sought-after residential location in West Butts Road, Etchinghill, is within walking distance of local amenities and Cannock Chase.

It is for sale through C Residential Estate Agents at £450,000.

It has a large reception hall, guest cloakroom/WC, dining room, lounge, breakfast kitchen, three bedrooms, a shower room, conservatory, integral garage and a lawned garden.

In more detail the reception hall is large and has two storage cupboards. The cloakroom/WC has tiled walls and flooring, while the lounge has a feature marble effect fire surround and hearth with a coal-effect gas fire and sliding patio doors to the rear garden.

The breakfast kitchen has a range of base and wall units, a five-ring gas hob with an extractor hood over, electric oven, fridge/freezer and dishwasher. It also has tiled flooring and a window overlooking the front of the property.

Bedroom one has a built-in wardrobe and windows to both the side and rear. Bedroom two has a built-in wardrobe and a window to the side. Bedroom three has sliding patio doors opening to the conservatory.

The shower room includes a WC, bidet, vanity unit with an inset hand wash basin and enclosed shower cubicle with a mains shower over.

The conservatory has tiled flooring and doors leading to the rear garden.

Outside, the property is set back from the road behind a good frontage providing ample off-road parking. This in turn provides access to the integral garage with an up-and-over door and electricity. There is an internal access door into the bungalow.

The rear garden is fully enclosed, having a paved patio seating area and steps leading to the lawned garden. A pedestrian gate leads to the side.

ETCHINGHILL £450,000



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Individually designed

Sought-after location

3 bedrooms/2 receptions

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- Fitted Bathroom
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- NO CHAIN

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PROPERTY



Well-equipped semi-detached in popular village

A well-equipped three-bedroom semi-detached house in a popular cul-de-sac, 12 Jubilee Close, Great Wyrley, lies in a much sought-after south Staffordshire village.

It is for sale through Boot & Son Estate Agents at £169,950.

It has a reception hall, a lounge, kitchen, three bedrooms, a bathroom, integral garage, gardens, full double glazing and gas central heating.

GREAT WYRLEY
£169,950

In more detail the side reception hall has laminate flooring. The lounge has a stairwell and an Adam-style feature fire surround with a composite marble hearth and inset natural flame gas fire and French windows to the rear garden.

The part-tiled kitchen has laminate working surfaces and a breakfast

bar, laminate flooring and plumbing for an automatic washing machine

Of the three bedrooms, bedroom one has built-in wardrobes, shelving, a bed recess with bedside cupboards with shelving, high level storage cupboards over and an additional built-in wardrobe. Bedroom two has a built-in wardrobe with sliding mirror doors.

Contact Boot & Son on 01543 505454 or visit www.bootandson.co.uk



Five-bedroomed detached enjoys countryside views

This stunning five-bedroomed detached family home in Chatterton Avenue, Lichfield, is set on a large plot with beautiful views of the countryside.

It is for sale through Jayman Estate Agents at £540,000 with no chain.

This spacious five-bedroom detached property is perfect for any growing family or those that love to entertain. Set over three storeys, this home has many rooms with plenty of potential to be used however the

LICHFIELD
£540,000

owner may see fit to suit their needs.

The house is situated on the popular and sought-after Sandfields/Darwin Park development and is within close proximity of all local schools, amenities and transport links.

In brief the property comprises of

an entrance hall, dining room, sitting room, guest WC, breakfast kitchen, utility room and study. To the first floor there is a lounge, master bedroom with dressing area, en-suite and nursery. The second floor has four further bedrooms, one with an en-suite and a family bathroom.

Outside the property benefits from a drive with parking for several vehicles, a double garage and a good-sized rear garden.

Contact Jayman on 01543 505566.



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CANNOCK
HEATHGAP ROAD

SOLD

Detached
Lounge Diner
Kitchen
Utility
Study
3 Bedrooms

Bathroom
GCH & DG
Garage
Rear Garden
EPC Rating D

SSTC

HEATH HAYES
LYNDHURST ROAD

SOLD

Semi Detached
Bungalow
Lounge
Breakfast Kitchen
3 Bedrooms
Family Bathroom

En Suite
Gas Central Heating
Extensive Driveway
Rear Garden
Swimming Pool
EPC Rating D

SSTC

HEDNESFORD
FOSTER AVENUE

SOLD

Semi Detached
House
Newly Refurbished
Lounge
Kitchen
3 Bedrooms

Bathroom
GCH & DG
Driveway
Large Rear Garden
EPC Rating D

SSTC

WIMBLEBURY
FOXTAIL WAY

Town House
Lounge
Kitchen
2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating

Double Glazing
Rear Garden
Garage
Parking
EPC Rating C

£575 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
CANNOCK ROAD

NEW

Unfurnished
Semi Detached
Lounge
Dining Room
Kitchen

2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
EPC Rating E

£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
STONEY CROFT

NEW

Unfurnished
Terrace House
Lounge
Kitchen Diner
2 Bedrooms
Bathroom

Heating
Double Glazing
Rear Garden
Parking
EPC Rating D

£525 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

HEATH HAYES
CHAPEL STREET

NEW

Unfurnished
Semi Detached
House
Lounge
Dining Room
Kitchen

2 Bedrooms
Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Garden
EPC Rating D

£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
BEECH TREE COURT

NEW

Unfurnished
Ground & First
Floor Flat
Lounge
Kitchen
2 Bedrooms

Bathroom
Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Parking
EPC Rating C

£495 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

CANNOCK
PEREGRINE WAY

NEW

Unfurnished
First Floor Flat
Lounge
Kitchen
1 Bedroom
Bathroom

Gas Central Heating
Double Glazing
Garage
EPC Rating C

£460 pcm & FEES - NO DSS

All enquiries call
01543 468847
Or e-mail
ben.keable@keablehomes.co.uk

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SALES LETTINGS MANAGEMENT AUCTIONS SURVEYS COMMERCIAL EPC's

BROOK LODGE, SCHOOL LANE, DUNSTON



NO CHAIN

INDIVIDUALLY DESIGNED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE LOCATED IN THIS POPULAR RURAL HAMLET WITH WELL STOCKED PRIVATE GARDENS Conveniently Located For Access To Facilities At Stafford And Penkridge And A449, A5 And M6 Toll And M54 Motorway

- ◆ Enclosed porch and reception hall
- ◆ Three reception rooms
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen and utility
- ◆ Double glazed conservatory
- ◆ Four double bedrooms
- ◆ Two bathrooms
- ◆ Double width garage and in and out drive
- ◆ Oil fired central heating
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Security phone system
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

£425,000 FREEHOLD

1 PARK VIEW COURT, OLD PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT Located In Much Sought After Residential Area Of The Town

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Garage
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Security phone system
- ◆ EPC rating D (66)

£159,950

21 HILL STREET, HEDNESFORD



EXTENDED AND IMPROVED FOUR BEDROOMED LINK DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE WITH SECURE GATED DRIVE/ PARKING AREA

Located In Popular Residential Area Convenient For Facilities At Hednesford Centre

- ◆ Lounge and dining room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom and separate toilet
- ◆ side gated drive
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (67)

£195,000 FREEHOLD

30 OLD FALLOW ROAD, CANNOCK



NO CHAIN

SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Loft room
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Off road parking & gardens
- ◆ EPC rating E (53)

£169,950 FREEHOLD

INDIVIDUAL BUILDING PLOT ADJOINING HORSEFAIR COTTAGE, 90 BELLBROOK, PENKRIDGE



RARE OPPORTUNITY TO ACQUIRE A GOOD SIZED INDIVIDUAL BUILDING PLOT

- ◆ Having planning permission for one 3/4 bedroomed detached residence
- ◆ To include detached double width garage with store room over
- ◆ Occupying elevated position
- ◆ Located in conservation area of Penkridge

£170,000 FREEHOLD

8A LITTLEWOOD ROAD, CHESLYN HAY



DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOMED DETACHED BUNGALOW RECENTLY CONSTRUCTED AND FITTED TO A HIGH SPECIFICATION

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Fitted kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Extensive off road parking
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ EPC rating B (82)

£225,000 FREEHOLD

FLAT 4 BARROW CLOSE, WALSALL WOOD



NO CHAIN

TWO BEDROOMED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac Within Easy Reach Of All Main Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge/dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Allocated parking space
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (72)

£97,950

23 SMILLIE PLACE, CANNOCK.



NO CHAIN

IMPROVED THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE Located In Popular Cul-De-Sac

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ Separate toilet
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ EPC rating E (44)

£119,950 FREEHOLD

208 LONGFORD ROAD, CANNOCK



CONSIDERABLY IMPROVED EXTENDED THREE BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE Located In Much Sought After Residential Area Of Cannock Conveniently Located For Facilities

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Cloaks/shower room
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ plan refitted dining/ family/kitchen
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Built on garage and gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (71)

£285,000 FREEHOLD

232A ECCLESHALL ROAD, STAFFORD



NO CHAIN

NEW PRICE WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE LOCATED IN POPULAR RESIDENTIAL AREA OF STAFFORD Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre

- ◆ Reception hall and cloakroom
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Open plan fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Ensuite shower room and family bathroom
- ◆ Integral garage and landscaped garden
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ EPC rating B (83)

£319,950 FREEHOLD

PLOT 2, 198 HEDNESFORD ROAD, NORTON CANES



ONE OF TWO WELL EQUIPPED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY RESIDENCES Well Located For Facilities Within This Popular Village

- ◆ Reception/study
- ◆ Cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Four double bedrooms
- ◆ Ensuite shower room and family bathroom
- ◆ Integral garage & gardens
- ◆ Intruder alarm & 10 year warranty
- ◆ Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating B (83)

£269,950 FREEHOLD

33 MAYCROFT CLOSE, HEDNESFORD



TWO BEDROOMED END MEWS HOUSE LOCATED IN POPULAR CUL-DE-SAC Adjoining Open Space/Nature Reserve with Facilities Available at Cannock and Hednesford Centres

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Off Road Parking
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating C (74)

£119,950 FREEHOLD

SPINNERS, 3 MISS PICKERINGS FIELD, ACTON TRUSSELL



ATTRACTIVE WELL MAINTAINED FOUR BEDROOMED DETACHED FAMILY HOUSE Situated In The Quiet Cul-De-Sac Of Miss Pickerings Field Overlooking Landscaped Public Open Space In The Heart Of This Much Sought After Award Winning South Stafford Village Of Acton Trussell

- ◆ Reception hall and cloakroom
- ◆ Three reception rooms
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Four bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom and ensuite
- ◆ Built on double width garage
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Intruder alarm
- ◆ EPC rating D (65)

£375,000 FREEHOLD

KINNIVIE, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, PENKRIDGE



CONSIDERABLY EXTENDED AND IMPROVED 3 BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE Originally Built In The Popular Interwar Period In This Much Sought After South Staffordshire Market Village

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Extended refitted L shaped dining kitchen
- ◆ Refitted cloak/shower room
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Well stocked gardens
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ EPC rating E (47)

£229,950 FREEHOLD

104 HATHERTON ROAD, CANNOCK



AN EXTENDED WELL EQUIPPED FIVE BEDROOMED FAMILY RESIDENCE Located In Sought After Residential Area Of The Town

- ◆ Enclosed porch & reception hall
- ◆ Guest cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Lounge & dining room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two UPVC double glazed conservatories
- ◆ Four first floor bedrooms & family bathroom
- ◆ Second floor bedroom & ensuite bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating & fully double glazed
- ◆ Integral garage (limited width) & large gardens
- ◆ EPC rating D (64)

£349,950 FREEHOLD

THE COTTAGE, BROADHURST GREEN ROAD, HEDNESFORD



TWO BEDROOMED DETACHED HOUSE WITH RANGE OF OUTBUILDINGS AND LAND EXTENDING TO APPROX 2.5 OF AN ACRE

- ◆ Open plan lounge/ kitchen area
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Outside utility room
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Extensive range of outbuildings
- ◆ Occupation subject to being solely or mainly employed in agriculture or forestry industry
- ◆ EPC rating E (47)

£325,000 FREEHOLD

01543 505454



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SALES LETTINGS MANAGEMENT AUCTIONS SURVEYS COMMERCIAL EPC's

4 SCHOOL PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM SINGLE STOREY BARN CONVERSION Situated On The Picturesque Rural Estate Of Teddesley Park

- ◆ Fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Oil fired central heating
- ◆ Inner Hall
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Landscaped communal grounds
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ EPC rating: C (69)

£650pcm

9 WHITFIELD ROAD, HEDNESFORD



SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM BUNGALOW

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ All windows double glazed
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: E (46)

£625pcm

FLAT 9 CROSS STREET, BRIDGTOWN



SPACIOUS WELL EQUIPPED REFURBISHED GROUND FLOOR FLAT Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen & utility
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Cellar
- ◆ Part tiled shower room
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (70)

£535pcm

40 BROADMEADOW LANE, GREAT WYRLEY



TWO BEDROOM END TERRACED HOUSE Located In Popular Residential Area

- ◆ Lounge/dining room
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Built-on garage
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Gardens & off road parking
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: D (55)

£625pcm

20 AVON ROAD, CANNOCK



REFURBISHED SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Lounge/dining room
- ◆ Refitted kitchen
- ◆ Side enclosed verandah
- ◆ Utility room
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ All windows double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ No pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: E (52)

£595pcm

7 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Secure communal entrance
- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Ensuite shower room
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: C (75)

£650pcm

18 KINROSS AVENUE, HEDNESFORD



WELL APPOINTED DECEPTIVELY SPACIOUS FOUR BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In Sought After Residential Area And Been Newly Decorated Throughout

- ◆ Lounge & dining area
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Master bedroom with dressing area & en-suite
- ◆ Three further bedrooms
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: D (58)

£750pcm

6 ST MARYS CLOSE, SHARESHILL



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In The Sought After Village Of Shreshill

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining room
- ◆ Refitted kitchen
- ◆ Study/family room
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted shower room
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: C (69)

£675pcm

22 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED SECOND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Secure communal entrance
- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Lift facility
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Electric heater
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: C (70)

£550pcm

22 PRINCESS STREET, CANNOCK



AN IMPROVED WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED BUNGALOW

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Breakfast kitchen
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Extensive off road parking
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: D (61)

£650pcm

1C CANNOCK ROAD, BURNTWOOD



WELL PRESENTED ONE BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Bedroom
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: D (67)

£450pcm

FLAT 9A CROSS STREET, BRIDGTOWN



SPACIOUS WELL EQUIPPED REFURBISHED FIRST FLOOR FLAT Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining kitchen & utility
- ◆ Inner lobby
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: D (68)

£535pcm

1 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOMED APARTMENT Located In Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Secure communal entrance
- ◆ Entrance Hall
- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: D (68)

£575pcm

34 CHASELEY AVENUE, CANNOCK



SPACIOUS THREE BEDROOMED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE Located In Cul-de-sac In Sought After Shoul Hill Area

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Dining room
- ◆ Kitchen & utility room
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Shower room
- ◆ Built-on garage
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas fired central heating
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, smokers or pets allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: C (69)

£625pcm

FLAT 1 ADAM COURT, NEW PENKRIDGE ROAD, CANNOCK



SPACIOUS TWO BEDROOMED GROUND FLOOR FLAT In Sought After Area Convenient For Town Centre

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (74)

£525pcm

21 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED SECOND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Secure communal entrance
- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Lift facility
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: C (71)

£550pcm

THE BARN, OFF CLAY STREET, PENKRIDGE



CHARACTERFUL THREE BEDROOMED BARN CONVERSION Located In A Most Convenient Position Within This Much Sought After South Staffordshire Market Village

- ◆ Cloakroom with WC
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Fitted dining kitchen
- ◆ Bedroom three/study
- ◆ Two double bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted bathroom
- ◆ Two allocated parking spaces
- ◆ Gas fired central heating & fully double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (71)

£850pcm

11 THE WILLOWS, CANNOCK



RECENTLY REFURBISHED ONE BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED BUNGALOW Located In A Popular Residential Area

- ◆ Reception hall
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Bedroom
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Large garden
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: D (55)

£530pcm

FLAT 4 PILLATON HOUSE, CROWNBRIDGE COURT, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT Located In Popular Development Close To Village Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite shower room
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Allocated parking
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C (76)

£550pcm

5 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED GROUND FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT Located In An Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Secure communal entrance
- ◆ Entrance hall
- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Sorry No DSS, pets or smokers allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: D (68)

£575pcm

APARTMENT 13 BEECH TREE COURT, BEECH TREE LANE, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED TWO BEDROOMED GROUND FLOOR APARTMENT Located In Popular Residential Area Convenient For Facilities At The Town Centre

- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Fitted kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Security phone intercom
- ◆ Sorry no pets, smokers or DSS
- ◆ EPC rating: C(80)

£525pcm

5 RICKYARD PLACE, TEDDESLEY PARK ESTATE, PENKRIDGE



WELL EQUIPPED TWO STOREY TWO BEDROOMED BARN CONVERSION Located On The Picturesque Rural Estate Of Teddesley Park

- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Landing
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Oil fired central heating
- ◆ Communal grounds
- ◆ Sorry no pets, DSS or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: B (82)

£595pcm (Plus Service Charge)

11 CROWN HOUSE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK



WELL EQUIPPED FIRST FLOOR TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT Located In Established Residential Area Convenient For Local Facilities

- ◆ Secure communal entrance
- ◆ Lounge
- ◆ Open plan lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ En-suite shower room
- ◆ Family bathroom
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Sorry no DSS, pets or smokers
- ◆ EPC rating: C (74)

£590pcm

199A CANNOCK ROAD, CHADSMOOR



REFURBISHED TWO BEDROOM FIRST FLOOR FLAT

- ◆ Entrance lobby
- ◆ Hall
- ◆ Lounge/kitchen
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Refitted shower room
- ◆ Double glazed
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ Off road parking
- ◆ Sorry no smokers, pets or DSS allowed
- ◆ EPC rating: E (40)

£440pcm

6 THE NOOK, CHESLYN HAY



WELL EQUIPPED THREE BEDROOM DETACHED HOUSE Located In Popular Residential Area

- ◆ Lounge & dining room
- ◆ Kitchen & utility area
- ◆ Three bedrooms
- ◆ Bathroom
- ◆ Gas central heating
- ◆ Fully double glazed
- ◆ Built-on garage
- ◆ Gardens
- ◆ Sorry no Smokers, DSS or pets
- ◆ EPC rating: E (42)

£750pcm

Southwells

TEL: 01889 582137

17 Upper Brook Street, Rugeley, Staffs



Fernwood Drive Rugeley
A Two Bedroom End Terrace House

- Ideal For Investor Or First Time Buyer
- Gas Central Heating
- Double Glazing
- Allocated Car Parking Space
- Fully Enclosed Rear Garden

£118,500



Cocketts Nook Rugeley
A Three Bedroom Semi-detached House

- Viewing essential to appreciate
- Gas central heating and double glazing
- Open plan dining kitchen
- Bathroom
- Front and rear gardens

£135,000



Burnthill Lane Rugeley
A Four Bedroom Executive Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Conservatory
- Dining Room
- Integral Garage

£245,000



Hednesford Road, Rugeley
A Three Bedroom Traditional Detached House

- Three Reception Rooms
- Downstairs Shower Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Detached Workshop and sheds
- Driveway & Large Rear Garden

£215,000



Avonlea Gardens Rugeley
A Refurbished Two Bedroom Semi Detached Bungalow

- UPVC Double Glazed
- Gas Central Heating
- Fitted Kitchen
- Situated On A Popular Residential Estate
- Vacant Possession

£164,950



Ti-Arwil, Keystone Lane, Rugeley
Traditional 3 Bedroom Semi-Detached House

- Part Double Glazed
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Kitchen & Bathroom
- Front & Rear Gardens & Driveway Parking
- Single Car Garage & Outside W.C.

£163,000

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“Conditions Apply”



Sheepfair Rugeley
A Two Bedroom Detached Bungalow

- Town Centre Location
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazed
- Set In Gated Secure Complex
- Built Approximately 2 Years Ago

£225,000



Mersey Cottage, Armitage Road, Rugeley
One Bedroom Cottage

- Gas Central Heating
- Lounge
- Kitchen / Bathroom
- Master Bedroom
- Rear Garden leading to Canal Mooring

£105,000



Coley Grove, Little Haywood
Two Bedroom Link-Detached Bungalow

- Gas Central Heating & Double Glazing
- Lounge & Kitchen
- Bathroom
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Driveway and Garage

£185,000



Joseph Dix Drive Rugeley
A Three Bedroom Link Detached House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazed
- Dining Room
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Garage
- AGENCY FEES APPLY

£625 PCM

**More
Properties
URGENTLY
REQUIRED
Rugeley and
Surrounding
Areas**



Eaton Drive Rugeley
A Two Bedroom Town House

- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazed
- Enclosed Rear Garden
- Allocated Parking Space
- AGENCY FEES APPLY

£525 PCM

www.phillipsouthwellestatesltd.co.uk
Email: southwellssales@gmail.com

PROPERTY



Beautifully presented three-bedroomed family home

This beautifully presented three-bedroomed detached family home in Stafford Road, Newtown, is for sale through Lovett & Co Estate Agents at £365,000.

Set on the outskirts of Great Wyrley, it has views of the countryside from the sun terrace to the rear. With a private gated driveway and tall hedged borders to the front, the property sits on an extremely private and secure plot with stand-out features including the remote controlled gated entrance

NEWTOWN
£365,000

with intercom and driveway for several vehicles and spacious living accommodation.

There is a large lounge, dining room and rear conservatory, plus three double bedrooms with an en-suite to the master, modern fitted kitchen and bathrooms, private rear garden with summer house, sun

terrace from the master bedroom with views of the countryside to the rear, a fully insulated garage perfect for car enthusiasts or use as a home office. On the ground floor is a porch, guest WC, a hallway, lounge, conservatory, dining room, fitted kitchen and a garage.

On the first floor is a landing, three bedrooms with an en-suite and sun terrace to the master and family bathroom. The property has double glazing and gas central heating.

Contact 01543 889410.

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NEW VENUE AUCTION
Monday 4th December 2017
7pm Prompt at
THE GARDEN ROOM, OAK FARM HOTEL
Watling Street, Hatherton,
Cannock, WS11 1SB

Address	Wednesday 22 nd & 29 th November	Saturday 18 th & 25 th November 2 nd December
43 High Street, Chasetown, Burntwood	10:00am	10:00am
72 Cannock Road, Chase Terrace, Burntwood	10:30am	10:30am
Land to Rear of 77 Old Fallow Road, Cannock	11:15am	11:15am
1a Holden Crescent, Coalpool, Walsall	12:00pm	12:00pm
Parcel of Amenity Woodland North East of 52 Cannock Road, Featherstone, Wolverhampton	BY CALLING ON SITE WITH AUCTION CATALOGUE TO HAND PROSPECTIVE PURCHASERS ENTER THE SITE AT THEIR OWN RISK	
Land to rear of 1-5 Victoria Street Off Cemetery Road, Cannock.	BY CALLING ON SITE WITH AUCTION CATALOGUE TO HAND	

Tel: 01543 505454

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LOT 1
AMENITY WOODLAND,
NORTH EAST OF
52 CANNOCK ROAD,
FEATHERSTONE, WV10 7AE
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Good sized parcel of freehold amenity woodland
- ◆ Extending to 1.33 acres or thereabouts
- ◆ Having a good frontage to Cannock Road of approximately 210ft

GUIDE PRICE £15,000+

LOT 2
LAND REAR OF 1-5
VICTORIA STREET, BROOMHILL,
CANNOCK, WS11 5QQ
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Potential building land (subject to PP being obtained)
- ◆ Vehicular access from Victoria Street
- ◆ Site area 945 sq yards (0.195 acre or 0.079Ha) approx

GUIDE PRICE £70,000 - £90,000

72 CANNOCK ROAD, CHASE TERRACE,
BURNWOOD, WS1 1JP
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

LOT 3



- ◆ Semi detached house
- ◆ In need of refurbishment
- ◆ Two bedrooms
- ◆ Two reception rooms
- ◆ Garage
- ◆ Partial double glazing
- ◆ EPC rating tbc

GUIDE PRICE £75,000+



43 HIGH STREET, CHASETOWN,
BURNWOOD, WS1 3XE
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ End terraced shop with flat above
- ◆ In need of some repair and improvement
- ◆ Two car parking spaces
- ◆ Electrically rewired 2017
- ◆ Roof stripped and recovered
- ◆ Electric heating
- ◆ EPC Rating G (150)

GUIDE PRICE £70,000+

LOT 5
LAND REAR OF
77 OLD FALLOW ROAD,
CANNOCK, WS11 5QL
FREEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Residential redevelopment site extending to 0.22 Ha or thereabouts
- ◆ Having O.P.P for the erection of 5 detached houses
- ◆ Planning application no: 15/0410 Cannock Chase Council

GUIDE PRICE £340,000+



1A HOLDEN CRESCENT,
COALPOOL, WALSALL, WS3 1PY
LEASEHOLD WITH VACANT POSSESSION

- ◆ Modern first floor flat
- ◆ Requiring some improvement
- ◆ Ideal buy to let
- ◆ Electric heating (not tested)
- ◆ Predominantly double glazed
- ◆ EPC rating D (59)

GUIDE PRICE £30,000+

Heath Hayes Cannock Road NEW






4 1 3 EPC B **£360,000**

Heath Hayes Blithfield Place NEW






4 3 2 EPC D **£310,000**



Hednesford Kinross Avenue NEW







4 2 1 EPC E **£270,000**

Huntington Teddesley Way NEW

3 1 1 EPC C **£145,000**

Heath Hayes Bank Street NEW



2 1 2 EPC TBA **£135,000**

Hednesford Cygnet Close NEW





1 1 1 EPC D **£68,000**

Cannock Elizabeth Road NEW



5 1 3 EPC B **£212,000**

Pelsall Wood Lane NEW

3 2 1 EPC TBA **£179,995**

Cannock Devon Green NEW

2 1 1 EPC E **£90,000**


Brownhills Brownhills Road REDUCED



SOLD S.T.C.
Similar Properties Required

3 2 1 EPC D **£177,950**


Hednesford Heath Street NEW



SOLD S.T.C.
Similar Properties Required

3 1 1 EPC TBA **£175,000**

Wimblebury Barn Way NEW



SOLD S.T.C.
Similar Properties Required

3 1 1 EPC C **£145,000**

Hednesford Corsican Drive NEW



SOLD S.T.C.
Similar Properties Required

2 1 1 EPC TBA **£139,995**

Chadsmoor Church Street NEW



SOLD S.T.C.
Similar Properties Required

3 2 1 EPC D **£110,000**

Chadsmoor Woodford End NEW



SOLD S.T.C.
Similar Properties Required

2 1 1 EPC D **£99,995**

Rugeley
01889 358689

Jayman

Cannock
01543 505566

Railway Court, Norton Canes



Offers Around £45,000

Well Presented Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
45% Shared Ownership
EPC B

St Johns Road, Cannock



Offers Around £75,000

First Floor Flat
One Bedroom
Exceptionally Presented
Allocated Parking
Long Lease
EPC C

Hobby Way, Cannock



Offers Around £109,950

Ground Floor Apartment
Two Bedrooms
Kitchen / Diner
Bathroom
Allocated Parking
EPC C

Mountside Street, Hednesford



Offers Around £127,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Large Kitchen / Diner
Utility
Off Road Parking
EPC E

Sycamore Green, Cannock



Offers Around £135,000

Semi Detached Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen / Diner
Utility Room
EPC C

Lansdowne Way, Rugeley



Offers Around £155,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Two Reception Rooms
Off Road Parking
Garage
EPC E

River View, Penkridge



Offers Around £151,875

New Build Property
Two Bedrooms
Lounge / Diner
Fitted Kitchen
Shared Ownership
Awaiting EPC

Beech Pine Close, Hednesford



Offers Around £160,000

Semi Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen/Diner
Bathroom
Off Road Parking
EPC D

Far Lady Croft, Rugeley



Offers Around £165,000

End Terrace Property
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen / Diner
Off Road Parking
Sought After Location
EPC B

Lichfield Road, Armitage



Offers Around £170,000

Semi Detached Bungalow
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Garage
NO CHAIN
EPC C

Eden Close, Cannock



Offers Around £170,000

Link Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Kitchen / Diner
Garage
In Need of Modernisation
Awaiting EPC

Badgers Way, Heath Hayes



Offers Around £170,000

Link Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Conservatory
EPC D

Cherry Bank, Hednesford



Offers Around £175,000

Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Conservatory
Corner Plot
Detached Garage
Awaiting EPC

Stoney Lea Road, Cannock



Offers Over £180,000

Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Lounge
Kitchen
Garage
EPC D

The Leas, Featherstone



Offers Around £219,995

Semi Detached Property
Five Bedrooms
Utility Room
Off Road Parking
Rear Garden
EPC D

Fremantle Drive, Cannock



Offers Around £220,000

Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Three Reception Rooms
Conservatory
Off Road Parking
Awaiting EPC

Waterlily Close, Cannock



Offers Around £230,000

Detached Property
Three Bedrooms
Two Bathrooms
Guest WC
Conservatory
EPC E

Walsall Road, Great Wyrley



Offers Around £250,000

Detached Property
Four Bedrooms
Ample Off Road Parking
Outdoor Heated Swimming Pool
No Chain
EPC D

School Lane, Shereshill



Offers Around £400,000

Detached Dormer Bungalow
Four Bedrooms
Two Bathrooms
Off Road Parking
Sought After Area
Awaiting EPC

Church Street, Rugeley



Offers Over £450,000

Detached Property
Five Bedrooms
Three Bathrooms
Three Reception Rooms
Detached Double Garage
EPC C

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Burntwood, Tamworth and Brownhills



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JR
PROPERTIES

T:01889 577731

E:enquiries@jrpropertiesstaffs.com

Wharf Road, Rugeley

£169,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this spacious and very well presented four bedroom, three storey end town house. Having Hallway, Kitchen, Lounge, Conservatory and Guest w.c. Landing to Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Further stairs to Master Bedroom with En Suite and Bedroom Four. Garden and

Essex Drive, Rugeley

£169,995

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this three bedroom semi detached bungalow, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Conservatory, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Covered Carport and Garage and Good Sized Garden to rear.

Green Lane, Rugeley

£144,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached home, being situated close to local amenities and offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory and Refitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear. Garage in separate

Elizabethan Way, Rugeley

£175,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to market this beautifully presented three bedroom three storey end town house. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Fitted Kitchen and Lounge. Landing to Two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom. Second Landing to Master Bedroom and En Suite. Gardens to front and rear and Garage with

Lodge Road, Brereton

£163,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer to the market this three bedroom semi detached family home, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for several vehicles to Detached Garage and Garden to rear.

Crestwood Rise, Etching Hill

£209,995

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three bedroom link detached family home, situated in quiet cul de sac within Etchinghill. Having Entrance Area, Family Breakfast Kitchen, Lounge, Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to covered carport and Garage and Gardens to front and rear.

Thorn Close, Rugeley

£229,950

SOLD



● JR Properties are pleased to market this four bedroom detached family home, situated in a cul de sac WITH NO CHAIN. Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Bedroom Four, Dining Room, Lounge and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Two further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway and Garden

St Anthons Close, Rugeley

£164,950

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached home, situated in the town centre and being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and gardens to front and

Crestwood Rise, Etching Hill

£199,995

MUST
BE
VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three bedroom link detached family home, located in a quiet cul de sac location in Etchinghill. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining Room and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to Garage and Garden to rear.

Redbrook Lane, Brereton

£145,000

NO
CHAIN



● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached family home, being offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge, Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to front and Garden to rear.

Lower Birches Way, Rugeley

£285,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this four bedroom detached family home, on the sought after Birches Estate. Having Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining Room and Conservatory. Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite, Three further Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway for

Littlehay Manor, Colton

£299,950

VILLAGE
LOCATION



● JR Properties are pleased to market this modern three bedroom semi detached family home, situated on a quiet private road within the sought after village of Colton. Having open aspect to rear and well maintained throughout. Entrance Hallway, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Family Breakfast Kitchen and Utility. Landing to Master

The Lindens, Rugeley

£225,000

MUST
BE
VIEWED



● JR Properties are pleased to market this well presented three storey, four bedroom family home. Offering flexible accommodation and having Entrance Hallway, Guest W.C., Breakfast Kitchen, Lounge and Conservatory. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom and Further Landing to Master Bedroom with En Suite. Gardens to

Yew Tree Road, Brereton

£135,000

NO
CHAIN



● JR Properties are pleased to market this three bedroom semi detached home, being offered with a TENANT IN SITU. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge/Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear with Off Road parking.

Yew Tree Road, Brereton

£129,995

NO
CHAIN



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom semi detached home, being offered with TENANT IN SITU. Having Entrance Hallway, Lounge/Dining Room and Fitted Kitchen. Landing to Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear.

Chester Road, Rugeley

£130,000

NEW



● JR Properties are pleased to offer for sale this two bedroom terraced starter home, located in a quiet cul de sac location with open aspect to front. Having Porch, Entrance Hallway, Fitted Kitchen and Lounge. Landing to Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garden to rear and allocated parking.

"Serving Rugeley and its Villages"



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Upper Landywood Lane
CHESLYN HAY



Immaculately Presented Four Bedroom Detached House / Large Plot 1/4 Acre in Size / Several Spacious Reception Rooms / Large Private & Secluded Rear Garden

£600,000

Stafford Road
GREAT WYRLEY



Beautifully presented three bedroom detached family home / Private gated driveway / Extremely private & secure plot / Remote controlled gated entrance / Spacious living accommodation

Offers in the Region Of £365,000

Walsall Road
GREAT WYRLEY



Stunning character property dating back to the 1750's / Spacious five bedroom link detached home / Numerous reception rooms / Inglenook fireplaces / Exposed oak beams

£350,000

Watermint Close
WIMBLEBURY



Immaculately presented four bedroom detached house / Set on large & extremely private plot at end of quiet cul-de-sac / Large rear two storey extension

£335,000

Sycamore Hill
CANNOCK WOOD



Well presented three bedroom detached bungalow / Highly desirable and sought after village location / Renovated and refurbished to a good standard throughout

£335,000

Wimblebury Road
WIMBLEBURY



Well presented four bedroom detached house / Finished to high specification throughout / Set back from main road / Shared private driveway / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation

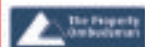
Offers in Excess of £270,000

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£105,000	£2,268	£997	£1,271
£150,000	£3,240	£1,425	£1,815
£200,000	£4,320	£1,900	£2,420
£300,000	£6,480	£2,860	£3,630
£500,000	£10,800	£4,760	£6,050

*Standard Estate Agents Fee Staffordshire @2.16% Inc VAT. Source: Rightmove (April 2017)



Levett Grange
RUGELEY



Immaculately presented detached family home / Sought after location / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Modern breakfast kitchen, bathroom & en-suite

£250,000

Asquith Drive
HEATH HAYES



Four bedroom detached house / Well established and sought after residential area / Spacious lounge and separate dining room / UPVC conservatory

£250,000

Burnthill Lane
RUGELEY



Four bedroom detached family home / Set on a good sized corner plot / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Driveway and an integral garage / Superb reception style conservatory

£245,000

St David Close
RAWNSLEY



Four bedroom detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac / Sought after semi-rural setting of Rawnsley / Spacious lounge and separate dining room

£240,000

Woodfield Drive
NORTON CANES



Two bedroom link detached bungalow / End of a quiet cul-de-sac / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Spacious lounge / Charming private rear garden / Garage and a driveway with parking for two-three vehicles

£220,000

Waverley Gardens
ETCHING HILL



Four bedroom detached house / Delightful views of Cannock Chase to the rear / Useful ground floor bedroom and shower room / Spacious lounge and open plan kitchen-diner

£215,000

Longacres
HEDNESFORD



Extended four bedroom semi detached house / Quiet cul-de-sac location / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Single integral garage / Driveway for two vehicles

£185,000

The Lindens
RUGELEY



Well presented three bedroom town house / Situated down quiet cul-de-sac / Spacious living & sleeping accommodation / Set over three storeys / Modern open plan dining kitchen / Top floor master

Offers in Excess of £185,000

Alpine Drive
HEDNESFORD



Well presented three-four bedroom semi detached house / Converted garage used as an extra bedroom / Ground floor extension to rear offering further living space

£185,000

Dugdale Close
WIMBLEBURY



Well presented three bedroom link detached house / NO ONWARD CHAIN / Spacious open plan lounge diner / Modern fitted bathroom / Large garage & driveway for several vehicles

£170,000

Bradbury Lane
HEDNESFORD



Stunning three bedroom semi detached house / Finish to high specification throughout / Undergone extensive renovation & refurbishment / Good sized lounge / UPVC conservatory

Offers in Excess of £170,000

Fieldhouse Road
HEDNESFORD



Well presented three bedroom semi detached house / Spacious lounge & sitting room / Conservatory overlooking charming landscaped rear garden / Superb hot tub room

£160,000

Brooklyn Road
HEATH HAYES



Three bedroom semi detached house / Set down quiet cul-de-sac

£135,000

Whitby Way
CANNOCK



Well presented two bedroom semi detached house / Set on large corner plot / With front, rear & side gardens / Spacious lounge & kitchen-diner / Modern fitted shower room & driveway

Offers in Excess of £125,000

Knights Court, Bettys Lane
NORTON CANES



Well presented two bedroom semi detached mews / Ideal for first time buyers & investors / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Off road parking / Garden to front & side

£125,000

Stafford Street
HEATH HAYES



NO ONWARD CHAIN / Immaculately presented two bedroom terraced house / Tastefully brought up to modern standard whilst maintaining plenty of original charm

Offers in Excess of £120,000

Uxbridge Street
HEDNESFORD



Two bedroom end terraced property / Dining room & kitchen / Small rear courtyard with shed & fenced borders

£95,000

Longacres
HEDNESFORD



Well presented one bedroom first floor maisonette / Modern fitted kitchen & bathroom / Off road parking for one vehicle / Garage for storage / Ideal for first time buyers & investors

£87,500

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NEW **WIMBLEBURY**
ARTHUR STREET



SSTC
Similar Required

- Ground Floor
- Bathroom
- Generous Lounge
- Rear Garden
- Kitchen
- No Chain
- Double Bedroom

\$62,000

NEW **CHESLYN HAY**
HAWKS CLOSE



SSTC
Similar Required

- Spacious Detached
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge
- Driveway
- Kitchen/Diner
- Playroom
- Conservatory
- Rear Garden

\$200,000

NEW **HEDNESFORD**
BRINDLEY CRESCENT



SSTC
Similar Required

- Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Extended Semi
- Bathroom
- Lounge
- Rear Garden
- Utility Area
- Viewing Essential

\$170,000

WIMBLEBURY
WATERLILY CLOSE



SSTC
Similar Required

- Through Hallway,
- Bedrooms
- Refitted Kitchen,
- Refitted Bathroom.
- Lounge Diner,
- Generous Driveway
- Two Double
- Detached Garage

\$149,950



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HEATH HAYES
GORSEMOOR ROAD



SSTC
Similar Required

- Link Detached
- Kitchen
- Corner Plot
- 3 Bedrooms
- Lounge,
- Bathroom
- Dining Room
- Gardens

\$178,000

WIMBLEBURY
BARN WAY



SSTC
Similar Required

- Deceptively Spacious
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Popular Location
- Utility Room
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 4 Bedrooms
- Refitted
- 2 En-Suites

\$319,950

BURNTWOOD
CROSS STREET



SSTC
Similar Required

- Detached Home
- 3 Bedrooms
- Through Hallway
- Shower Room
- Lounge/Diner
- Driveway
- Kitchen
- No Chain

\$209,950

HEATH HAYES
CANTERBURY WAY



SSTC
Similar Required

- Extended
- Dining Room
- Family Home
- Kitchen,
- Hallway, WC
- Breakfast Room
- Lounge,
- 4 Double Bedrooms

\$259,950

"Service you expect from the Agent that delivers"



"a company that continues to grow on its reputation and success"



**WOLSELEY COURT
RUGELEY**

Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN is this refurbished first floor apartment ideally positioned for the town centre. UPVC double-glazed and Electric Storage Heating. Entrance Hall, Open plan Lounge/Kitchen, One Bedroom and Shower Room. Communal Garden area. EPC rating E

£80,000



**GREENSLADE GROVE
HEDNESFORD**

A spacious ground floor purpose built apartment within easy walking distance to the local amenities of Hednesford. Entrance Hall, Lounge/Diner, Kitchen, Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Communal Gardens and Parking. EPC rating D

£95,000



**CHESTER ROAD
RUGELEY**

A two bedroomed mid-terraced property on a sought after development. Gas centrally heated and UPVC double-glazed throughout. Entrance Porch, Entrance Hallway, Kitchen and Lounge. First Floor Landing with Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garden to rear. Allocated parking. EPC RATING - TBC

£130,000



**HOLLYBANK
HAWKSYARD**

A well presented three bedroomed end terrace property situated on a popular development. Gas centrally heated and UPVC double-glazed throughout. Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge and Kitchen Diner. First Floor Landing with Master Bedroom with Ensuite Shower Room. Two further Bedrooms and Family Bathroom. Garden to rear. Two allocated parking spaces. EPC rating - C

£165,000



**MEADOW LARK CLOSE
HEDNESFORD**

A well presented and upgraded semi-detached bungalow offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Inner Hallway, Bedroom and Shower Room. Gardens to front and rear. SINGLE GARAGE. EPC rating D

£175,000



**BRERETON MANOR COURT
BRERETON**

A three-storey Grade 2, Georgian property within a popular location having original features. Entrance Porch, Reception Hall, Lounge, Guest Cloakroom, Cellar, First Floor landing with Lounge, Breakfast Kitchen and Study, Second Floor Landing with Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Garage in block. EPC rating D

£180,000



**BOWER LANE
ETCHINGHILL**

Two brand new semi-detached properties in a non-estate position. Both properties with UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Kitchen/Diner, First Floor Landing with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to front. Enclosed garden to rear. EPC rating: TBC

£185,000



**PUDDLE HILL
HIXON**

Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN is this individual detached bungalow positioned in sought after location of Hixon. Built by the current Vendors in 1962 the property is in need of modernisation and upgrade making an ideal refurbishment project. Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and Wet Room. Driveway to front with INTEGRAL GARAGE. Gardens EPC RATING - D

£230,000



**MERSEY CLOSE
RUGELEY**

A well presented and extended four bedroomed family home. Entrance Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Snug, Conservatory. Inner Hallway, Utility Area, Ground Floor Bedroom with En-suite Wet Room. First Floor Landing with Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to front. Enclosed garden area to rear with LARGE STORAGE SHED. EPC RATING - C

£235,000



**TITHEBARN ROAD
RUGELEY**

Offered with NO UPWARD CHAIN is this detached bungalow in popular location. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally heated. Side Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Fitted Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Driveway to side. Single Garage and Gardens to front and rear. EPC Rating D

£260,000



**STONEYFIELDS CLOSE
CANNOCK**

A two bedroomed detached bungalow in a quiet cul-de-sac. Gas centrally heated and UPVC double-glazed throughout. Entrance Porch, Kitchen/Diner, Lounge and Second reception room. Inner Hallway, Shower Room and Two Bedrooms. Gardens to front and rear. Driveway and Detached Garage. EPC RATING - D

£280,000



**VICTORIA STREET
HEDNESFORD**

Viewing of this spacious brand new detached bungalow built by Charmford Homes. Non-Estate position. UPVC double-glazed and Gas centrally Heated. Entrance Hall, Open plan Lounge with Living Kitchen, Three Bedrooms and Bathroom. Large driveway to front with enclosed garden to rear. EPC rating: to be confirmed

£289,995



**CHASELEY ROAD
ETCHINGHILL**

Extended four bedroomed detached family home in a sought after location. Entrance Hall, Two Reception Rooms, Breakfast Kitchen and Utility Room. First Floor Landing, Four Bedrooms, Family Bathroom and Shower Room. Garage Large Garden of approximately 3/4 of an acre (un measured) with views over Cannock Chase, an area of outstanding natural beauty. EPC Rating - E

£399,950



First Months Rent Free
**FORGE MEWS
FORGE ROAD, RUGELEY**

Ground floor flat within walking distance of the town centre. Accommodation comprises of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, One Double Bedroom, Shower Room. Garden to front. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating D DEPOSIT £623

£450 pcm



First Months Rent Free
**BOW STREET
RUGELEY**

Semi-detached property, refurbished to a high standard, comprises of open plan Lounge/Kitchen with some appliances, Two Bedrooms and Shower Room. Patio area at rear. On road parking. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating D DEPOSIT £795

£520 pcm



IVY MANOR, ABBOTS BROMLEY

Set over three floors the property provides Large Reception Hall, Guest Cloakroom, Study, Lounge, Dining Kitchen, First Floor Landing with Four Bedrooms one having an en-suite shower room plus Family Bathroom. Second Floor Master Suite comprising of a Bedroom area, Dressing area and En-suite Shower Room. DETACHED DOUBLE GARAGE. EPC rating B

£570,000



AVAILABLE RENTALS

Queensway, Rugeley - £510 pcm - 3 bed house

Sunbeam Drive, Gt Wyrley - £550 pcm - 3 bed maisonette

Ridgeway, Hixon - £790 pcm - 3 bed house

Horsefair, Rugeley - £445 pcm - 2 bed flat

Phoenix Close, Rugeley - £535 pcm - 2 bed house

Arch Street - £320 pcm - 1 bed flat

The Sidings, Hednesford - £500 pcm - 2 bed flat

Coppice Road, Rugeley - £520 pcm - 3 bed house



First Months Rent Half Price
**FERNWOOD DRIVE
RUGELEY**

Well presented mid terraced property comprising of Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen, Guest Cloaks. Two Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gardens to front and rear. Off road parking to rear. VIEWING HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. NO DSS. NO PETS. NO SMOKERS. EPC Rating C DEPOSIT £747

£540 pcm



First Months Rent Half Price
**STAFFORD ROAD
CANNOCK**

Spacious semi detached property, Entrance Hall, Lounge, Kitchen with range cooker, Dining Room, Utility area and W.C., Conservatory, Three Bedrooms and re-fitted Shower Room. Large garden with access to storage area and Garage at rear. NO DSS. SMOKERS or PETS. EPC Rating E DEPOSIT £900

£650 pcm



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Burntwood Office - £435,000



HAMMERWICH, OVERTON LANE

- Impressive detached residence
- Superb semi-rural location
- Two receptions & breakfast kitchen
- Driveway parking & double garage

Burntwood Office - £390,000



LICHFIELD, ARMADA CLOSE

- Modern detached family residence
- Four bedrooms, conservatory
- Guest W.C., utility
- Cul-se-Sac location

Burntwood Office - £360,000



BURNTWOOD, PAVIORS ROAD

- Impressive detached house
- Highly sought after location
- Stunning surrounding views
- Driveway parking & garage

Great Wyrley Office - o/o £300,000



GREAT WYRLEY, JACOBS HALL LANE

- Extended detached residence
- Substantial overall plot
- Field views to the rear
- Rear access

Great Wyrley Office - please call



CHURCHBRIDGE, WATLING STREET

- Four detached bungalows
- Currently under construction
- Set just off Watling Street
- £249,950 - £275,000

Great Wyrley Office - £249,950



GREAT WYRLEY, LOVE LANE

- Superb semi-detached house
- Highly desirable location
- Extended accommodation
- Further development possible (STP)

Great Wyrley Office - £242,950



GREAT WYRLEY, SPRING DRIVE

- Impressive detached bungalow
- Private Cul-de-Sac location
- New kitchen being fitted
- Large conservatory

Burntwood Office - £225,000



BURNTWOOD, NEW PLANT LANE

- Spacious semi-detached
- Lounge, guest W.C.
- Conservatory, garage
- Viewing highly recommended

Burntwood Office - £190,000



LICHFIELD, WATLING STREET

- Mid-terraced bungalow
- Village location of Wall
- Driveway parking
- No upward chain

Burntwood Office - £160,000



BURNTWOOD, CHORLEY ROAD

- Mid-terraced house
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Guest W.C., court yard
- Viewing highly recommended

Great Wyrley Office - £135,000



CANNOCK, WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD

- Mid-terrace period property
- Well presented interiors
- Ideal FTB / investor purchase
- Parking & garage to the rear

Great Wyrley Office - £99,950



BRIDGTOWN, UNION STREET

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MOTORING SECTION

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MOTORING

Trekking up Snowdonia!

By Jack Evans

People travel from far and wide to tackle Snowdon. It's the highest point in the UK outside of the Scottish Highlands, and draws thousands of visitors a year who all take on the challenging task of reaching its peak.

However, it's not that often that you're given the chance to climb part of the mountain in a car. That chance, though, as Hyundai launched its Kona compact SUV in the UK, with the 'Kona 10' challenge – a task to reach 10 of the most iconic volcanic location in the UK in under 72 hours.

We'd be tackling just one section of the challenge – Snowdon. Of course, not many cars can reach the summit of Snowdon, so we'd be travelling along just a small section of the mountain to get a feel for it.

The Miners' Track starts at Pen-y-Pass, and gives climbers a steady start to the ascent. Though rutted and rough in places, the track is regarded as one of the easier ways to begin a climb up Snowdon. Having looked at the Kona's road-ready tyres and lack of additional exterior protection, we didn't argue at using this route. Though the Kona sits in a rather crowded segment, going up against a multitude of rivals, it's one of the few that can offer four-wheel drive.

The Miners' Track is usually closed to all vehicles, save for Snowdonia National Park trucks – making it one of the few occasions when a conventional road car had used it, so we'd be making the most of the Kona's USP.

One of the most noticeable aspects of the drive was the lack of width; the Kona may be a relatively compact car but it felt almost Land Rover-wide at certain points of the journey. We wouldn't want to be driving anything larger.

Ideal

Snowdon's height and proximity to the sea means it endures some colossally bad weather – a few days prior to our arrival it had been raining sideways, according to the track guides. The day of our trip proved to be cold but only slightly damp – ideal for making your way up the mountain.

The track snakes its way gradually higher and higher. It was still open to walkers at the time of our climb, and many were startled to see a convoy of brightly coloured cars passing them – though all courteously moved out of the way.

The route curves and the sides fall away steeply, before winding its way around Llyn Teyrn – a spectacular lake huddled within two sides of a valley. It quickly passes this by, and hooks round before arriving at Llyn Llydaw – a large lake considerably bigger



The Miners' Track is usually closed to all vehicles except for National Park trucks

than Llyn Teyrn. In truth, the Kona was never troubled by the route. Yes, the track's diminutive width proved a little scary at points, but there was never a lack of traction nor ground clearance – both aspects that the average driver may find useful at points during daily driving. Though it's unlikely that many will take their Kona up the side of a mountain, it's useful

to know that it won't falter when facing a road covered in damp leaves.

We pull up at the side of Llyn Llydaw, and remark at just how staggeringly beautiful it is. That impression quickly wears off, and we scurry back into the warmth of the Kona's cabin.

The Kona did, as well as being comfortably warm in the chill

of an Autumn-time Snowdon, prove more than capable of tackling the Miners' Track. As we mentioned, there's little chance that Kona owners will choose to take their car up Snowdon, but its four-wheel-drive system means that it should inspire a little more confidence during tricky conditions than a conventional compact SUV.

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Deposit contribution	£1,400.00	Representative APR	2.99%
Total deposit	£1,999.00	Fixed rate of interest	1.54% p/a
On the road price*	£13,040.09	Duration of agreement	49 months
Amount of credit	£11,041.09	Annual mileage	6,000
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Customer deposit	£1,995.00	Total amount payable	£22,708.90
Deposit contribution	£1,500.00	Representative APR	4.49%
Total deposit	£3,495.00	Fixed rate of interest	2.31% p/a
On the road price*	£20,394.83	Duration of agreement	49 months
Amount of credit	£16,899.83	Annual mileage	6,000
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Probably best car Vauxhall makes

By Ian Donaldson

Vauxhall can't have heard about the demise of diesel; the new range topping Insignia Country Tourer comes with nothing else.

In fact, there isn't even a choice of engine until a second one arrives in a few weeks. And that's a diesel too.

Of course, Vauxhall knows diesels are going to be around for years and the overhyped stories that diesel is in its death throws are simply nonsense.

Which is just as well if you enjoy your driving, for the newcomer is probably the best car Vauxhall currently makes.

Ability

For a £1,355 premium over the normal Sport Tourer, you gain four-wheel drive in the most expensive version, while all of them have a gently raised ride height (+20mm) and the macho black plastic cladding and silver skid plates that these days signifies a car with the ability to handle a slippery forest track.

The result is a big car, more than five metres long, that socks it to the likes of Audi's Allroad and the VW Passat Alltrack but for thousands less, starting the three-car range at £25,635.

All of them share a 168bhp 2.0-litre turbo diesel engine and the ability to touch 135mph and hit 62mph in around nine seconds while managing better than 43mpg in the official test. A 210 horsepower diesel arrives shortly and automatic gears are already an option in a Country Tourer in front-drive form. Order the 4x4 (£27,235) and you'll have a car that is mostly front wheel drive most of the time but can switch power to the back wheels in an instant when slip is detected.

Beneath the new body cladding sits a car



Standard kit includes a fine satellite navigation system



This car has plenty of space for passengers in the rear

with enough space in the rear seat to act as a stand-in limo and a boot that varies from generous (560 litres) with the seat back upright to vast (1,665 litres) with it folded down.

Lack of room will never be a problem here. Nor will the fittings and fixtures that come with a car Vauxhall perches at the pinnacle of the Insignia range.

As befits the poshest model there are a

host of standard features, from a tailgate that opens with a well aimed kicking motion under the rear bumper to roof rails that can cope with loads up to 100kg.

You and your passengers should never feel a wintry chill in this car, with heated front seats as standard and outer rear seats as an option along with the option of a heated steering wheel for the driver and a heated windscreen to quickly banish early morning frost.



This version of the Insignia goes well beyond its specification and turns into an enjoyable ride

Standard kit also includes a fine satellite navigation, cruise control, leather faced seats, 19ins alloy wheels, panoramic camera and Vauxhall's OnStar system that gives you a wi-fi hotspot in the car and automatic crash response if the worst happens.

But this version of the Insignia goes well beyond its specification and turns into an enjoyable drive as soon as you head off down the road, a potent and easy-going

diesel engine mating with a precise manual gearchange to provide a car with genuine punch.

On a properly surfaced road, even in pouring rain, you're unlikely ever to trigger the 4x4 system into instant action. But come a winter chill or a muddy lane in deepest February and you might be very glad that your Country Tourer will take care of things for you.

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47 Monthly Payments	£149.98	GMFV (Optional Final Payment)
Customer Deposit	£99	£3,516
Vauxhall's Finance Deposit Contribution	£1,800	Total Amount Payable
Cash Price	£11,881.20	£13,262.06
Amount of Credit	£9,482.20	Borrowing Rate
		4.12%
		Representative
		5.4%APR

Based on **5,000** miles per annum. Excess mileage charged per mile at **9p**.

**NEW MOKKA X
1.4T ACTIVE**

47 Monthly Payments	£249	Interest Charges	£1,910.45
Customer Deposit	£249	GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£6,578
Vauxhall's Finance Deposit Contribution	£2,400	Total Amount Payable	£20,930
Cash Price	£19,019.55	Borrowing Rate	4.12%
Amount of Credit	£16,370		4.2%APR

Based on **5,000** miles per annum. Excess mileage charged per mile at **9p**.

**NEW ASTRA
1.4i 16V SE 5DR**

47 Monthly Payments	£199.98	Interest Charges	£1516.21
Customer Deposit	£599	GMFV (Optional Final Payment)	£5,164
Vauxhall's Finance Deposit Contribution	£3,000	Total Amount Payable	£20,930
Cash Price	£17,645.85	Borrowing Rate	4.12%
Amount of Credit	£13,046.85		4.2%APR

Based on **5,000** miles per annum. Excess mileage charged per mile at **9p**.

Walton-On-The-Hill, Stafford, ST17 0JX
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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range: Urban: 12.7 (22.3) – 74.3 (3.8), Extra-urban: 23.9 (11.8) – 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 18.0 (15.7) – 85.6 (3.3). CO2 emissions: 373 – 88g/km*. Cars shown for illustration purposes only. *Official EU-regulated test data are provided for comparison purposes and actual performance will depend on driving style, road conditions and other non-technical factors. *Subject to status. Terms and conditions apply. You will not own the car at the end of the agreement. *Option 1 - Pay final payment & keep the car. Option 2 - Return the car. Option 3 - Trade in against a new vehicle. Available at participating retailers only. Offer is subject to availability and may not apply to all retailer stocks. Finance provided by GMAC UK plc, P.O. Box 6666, Cardiff, CF15 7YT. Finance applicants must be 18 or over. Finance subject to status and terms and conditions. Deposit shown for illustrative purposes; with lower deposits monthly payments will be higher. **Minimum part exchange is valid on selected PCP quotations. Part exchanged vehicle must have a minimum of 6 months left on the MOT and be driven to the dealership without major faults. Vehicle must pass HPI registration write off clearance. Maximum age 10 years and maximum mileage of 100,000 miles. Offer ends 18th December 2017.



The specification is comprehensive

A bold and appealing effort from Kia with the Cee'd GT

By John Griffiths

It's not difficult to see the attractions of a performance hatchback: a combination of sports car-like driving dynamics and family car practicality.

Some have become icons in their own right like the Golf GTi, Ford ST, Leon Cupra and Honda's Civic Type-R to name but a few.

That makes it hard for newcomers to edge their nose into the fray but Kia is making a bold and appealing effort with its sporting flagship, the Cee'd GT.

It's perhaps best described as a 'warm' hatch rather than a 'hot' machine but combines more reasonable costs with impressive real-world performance. An excellent chassis makes for excellent handling (and it's fun, too) but that doesn't come at the expense of a harsh ride – it's more civilised than extreme.

The £24,010 car's engine is pretty remarkable too, turning out 201Ps of power and – thanks to turbocharging – a hefty 265Nm of torque. Enough to take you from a standstill to 62mph in just 7.3 seconds.

Official average fuel consumption is 38.2mpg which is reasonable for a car of this power potential. My 'real world' test result in an average 34mpg.



An excellent chassis makes for excellent handling

The turbo increases the standard 1,600cc engine's output by 51 per cent and torque by 61 per cent but that isn't the only benefit. This latest version produces maximum torque at lower revs (1,500rpm) than its predecessor for slightly quicker but smoother, more linear acceleration up to the limit. It feels effortless, civilised and particularly quiet – although you can switch on the new noise generator for a more growly, sporting sound if that's how the mood takes you. It's switched on by pressing the 'GT' button on the steering wheel which also changes the speedo from an analogue to a digital display, with torque and turbo gauges as well.

This best of two worlds engine really defines the Cee'd: it cruises for the most part at a near silent 2,000rpm but put your foot down for a quick overtake and it surges forward on a very convincing wave of power and torque. The benchmark 37 to 60mph overtaking sprint takes just 5.4 seconds and the job's done.

The chassis has the same dual personality, too. The sports suspension, while firm-ish, as you'd expect, it is well damped so you don't feel the worst some of our bumpy B-roads can offer. It also helps to keep you accurately on your chosen track on such roads, without discernible body roll and no signs of under or oversteer. Add sharp steering and it's a rewarding experience for the keen driver. This latest Cee'd flagship comes with new 18-inch alloys shod with grippy 225/40 low profile tyres. Bigger disc brakes all round have reduced stopping distances, too.

The interior is a pleasant place to be, with room for five adults: the rear seats are quite generous and there are stylish and comfortable leather and suede Recaro sports seats in front. Trim includes high gloss black and chrome highlights.

As you'd expect of the flagship of the range, the specification is comprehensive, as indeed it is for its sibling – the three-door pro_cee'd GT which is £500 cheaper, as it's essentially the same car but with three instead of five doors.

Equipment upgrades on this latest GT include an MP3 compatible DAB radio as part of a six-speaker audio system, a new seven-inch display screen for the satnav, traffic messaging and reversing camera.

Body styling touches such as new sill mouldings, the bigger wheels, aluminium pedals and red brake calipers also point to the car's potential and character.

In engineering the new GTs, Kia hasn't tried to rival some of the track day favourites but instead produced a pair of cars which offer real-world performance in a fun but civilised manner. It comes at considerably less cost than some of those more focussed rivals, too, along with a full seven years/100,000 mile warranty which is not be to sneezed at.

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Model shown All-New Kia Rio 'Pulse' 1.25 83bhp

FINANCE EXAMPLE

All-New Picanto 1.0 '1' 5dr 66bhp manual	Amount financed	£6,700.00	Guaranteed future value is	£3,897.00	Excess mileage charge	6ppm
Cash price of vehicle	36 monthly payments of	£99.72	Total amount payable	£8,236.92	APR Representative	4.9%*
Deposit	1 final payment of	£3,897.00	Annual mileage	6,000		

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Fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) for the models shown: Urban 47.1 (6.0) – 50.4 (5.6), Extra Urban 68.9 (4.1) – 76.3 (3.7), Combined 58.5 (4.8) – 64.2 (4.4), CO₂ emissions 109–101g/km.

MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. £2,000 (inc. VAT) scrappage saving available to private customers (excluding Personal Contract Hire) registering an all-new Picanto or all-new Rio between 1st September and 31st December 2017 at participating dealers in the United Kingdom, Isle of Man or Channel Islands. This offer is conditional to the scrappage of a vehicle, of any make, originally registered on or before 31st December 2010. There is no minimum retention period required. The scrappage saving is in lieu of all other offers. Only one scrappage payment can be claimed for each vehicle scrapped. Models shown All-new Picanto 'GT-Line' 1.0 66bhp 5-speed manual at £12,200 including optional chargeable Clear White paint at £250. All-New Kia Picanto range available from £9,450. All-New Kia Rio 'Pulse' 1.25 83bhp 5-speed manual 15G Limited Edition at £14,595. All-New Rio range available from £11,995. Specification varies across the range and is subject to change without notice. *Finance available subject to credit acceptance to UK residents aged 18 or over. Guarantees and indemnities may be required. Terms and conditions apply. Offer may be varied, withdrawn or extended at any time. Finance provided by KIA Financial Services. Kia dealers are licensed credit brokers but independent of KIA Financial Services. Subject to status. We are a credit broker (not a lender) for the purposes of this financial promotion and can introduce you to a limited number of carefully selected finance providers and may receive a commission from them for the introduction.



It's a chunky five-seat SUV with handsome imposing looks

By Dave Brown

You certainly feel in command of the road in our long-term Ford Edge. It's a car that's not to be trifled with.

A chunky five-seat SUV with handsome, imposing looks, it tells other road users: "I'm in charge and I'm not to be messed with."

I've found this to be the case in all sorts of driving environments lately. I'm the last person you would describe as aggressive behind the wheel, dutifully adhering to 70mph speed limits on deserted midnight motorways, and always being ultra-patient with the learner drivers who seem to spend every rush-hour bimbled along the lanes.

But other road users do seem to be somewhat in awe of EG17FKH. Fellow motorway drivers move left even if I'm approaching them from behind only very gradually, and those slow-moving learners do seem to be inclined to turn off if their instructors can see me in their rear-view mirrors. I'm not complaining, of course. If people are moving out of my way – and, true, it could all be in my imagination – it means the Edge is being noticed. And if nothing else, that's excellent news as far as my safety is concerned, as well as that of my passengers.



The Edge has front, rear and side sports bodystyling

So from the outside, yes, the Edge ticks all the boxes, and as well as that general air of dominance, our car stands out for other reasons.

It boasts front, rear and side sports bodystyling with dark exterior detailing, and snazzy 20-inch platinum grey alloy wheels. A rear spoiler helps to make the back view easy on the eye. All good.

Inside, however, I think it's a slightly different story. Sure, everything the driver needs is close at hand, easy to operate, and sensibly laid out.

And the kit list is impressive, including a Sony DAB navigation system with 12 speakers, alloy pedals, a rear-view camera and a 'Quickclear' heated front windscreen. An intelligent all-wheel drive system can determine how much grip, cornering balance and responsiveness is required in wet, dry or icy conditions and on varying terrain. Definitely a useful feature for more adventurous buyers.

It's just that whenever I get into a car for the first time – and I'd never driven a Ford Edge until a couple of weeks ago – I'm looking for the nifty design touch that catches my eye; something a little different – quirky, even – that raises a smile, and makes you think to yourself, "I really like that". I must confess, I didn't really find one in this car. What does help lift the mood, however, is our model's panoramic roof with sunshade. It's part of the ST-Line Lux Pack which adds £1,275 to the base price.

And as far as general levels of comfort are concerned, I've no complaints whatsoever. Impressive amounts of interior space will mean no-one will moan about feeling cramped and it's easy to find the perfect driving position.

Something else that helps make the Edge a pleasure to pilot and which is definitely worth a mention is active noise control. Microphones detect and measure specific sound waves while a control unit can separate the noises you do want to hear, such as conversation and the radio (Absolute 80s every time, please), from those you don't. The system then creates inaudible 'white noise' to cancel out any unwelcome sounds, and provide you with a real sense of tranquillity when you're driving. Clever stuff!

So how much will an Edge set you back? Well, a standard model will mean you'll be parting with almost £40,000 while our car, an ST-Line example with extras such as active steering, a front wide-view camera and adaptive cruise control with pre-collision assist, comes in at nearly £43,000.

You certainly get a lot for your money though – so if you're in the market for a substantial SUV that's not short on safety features and useful tech, this is a car that could definitely have the edge.

Ford Edge makes its presence well-known on the open road



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Great deals on offer across Renault range

Renault has a range of offers for the final weeks of 2017 including a three-year 0 per cent APR Selections PCP finance package available on Clio, new Captur, Kadjar, Mégane, Mégane Sport Tourer, all-new Scénic, all-new Grand Scénic and All-New Koleos. These offers are available until December 31.

The Clio can be driven away from only £129 per month on the three-year 0 per cent APR PCP Selections package.

Buyers in the market for a more family-sized vehicle can look at the Kadjar crossover available from £199 per month on the same three-year 0 per cent APR PCP Selections offer. Alternatively, the new Scenic can be purchased from just £219 per month using the three-year 0 per cent APR PCP Selections scheme.

Meanwhile, drivers looking for a multiple-award winning, affordable electric vehicle have the Renault ZOE Z.E. 40 with a number of offers available. On top of a free 7kW Wall-Box home charger, the ZOE Dynamique Z.E. 40, priced from £18,170 (excluding battery hire, including PiCG), is available with a four-year 4.9 per cent APR representative Selections PCP



The Clio can be driven away from only £129 per month

package. The ZOE - now with a 250 mile (NEDC) range - can be purchased with a deposit of £2,499 and monthly payments of £249 (including monthly battery hire and PiCG).

For those wishing to buy a ZOE without the monthly battery rental then there is also an offer available on the 'full purchase' ZOE-i. The

ZOE-i Dynamique R90 Z.E. 40 is available with a deposit of £4,499 and payments of £249 per month (including PiCG), based on a four-year 4.9 per cent APR Selections PCP offer.

For further details on the offers, including full terms and conditions, and Renault's extensive model range, visit www.renault.co.uk/offers

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Roy

Of Hightown.

Passed away in hospital on November 21, 2017, aged 69 years.

The devoted Husband of Chris and beloved Dad of Christopher and David also a loving Grandad, Brother, Uncle, Father-in-law and Friend.

Service will be held at Stafford Crematorium on Monday, December 11, at 3.20pm.

Family flowers. Donations to Deansley Centre, New Cross c/o Funeral Director

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HIGGINS

Frederick James

Passed away at home on November 17, 2017.

Funeral Service on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at Chads Moor Methodist Church, 1.30pm, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium, 2.40pm.

Family flowers only. Donations forwarded to St Giles Hospice and Marie Curie, c/o

CO-OPERATIVE

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Cannock

Telephone 01543 572644.

GREEN

Frank Ernest

Passed away on November 22, 2017, aged 82 years.

The Funeral Service will take place at Streetly Crematorium East Chapel, on Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at 10.45am.

Family flowers only.

Donations welcome, these will be forwarded to The British Heart Foundation.

Any further inquiries to

CO-OPERATIVE

FUNERALCARE,

106, Hednesford Road,

Heath Hayes.

WS12 3EA.

01543 495609.

JENKINSON

Jim

Of Wimblebury.

Passed away on Tuesday, November 21, 2017, aged 75 years.

Jim will be sadly missed by all his loving Family and Friends.

Funeral Service to be held at St Peters Church, Hednesford, on Friday, December 8, 2017, at 10.15am, followed by Burial at St Peters Churchyard.

Flowers welcome or donations for Macmillan if desired.

Inquiries to

HALLIWELL

FUNERAL SERVICE

70 Hednesford Road

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01543 459200.

Dad

Thank you for your loving and sharing, for giving and for caring.

God bless and keep you.

Until we meet again.

Love you, Sophie and Tom.

XX

Dad

God saw you getting weary, so He took you home to rest, His garden must be wonderful. He only takes the best.

From your loving Daughter Sherry, Son-in-law Dave, Grandchildren Jenny, Phil, Cate and James.

Always in our thoughts, forever in our hearts.

Love, Andy, Bren and Cameron.

XX

Words are few, thoughts are deep, memories of you we will always keep.

Love always, Gina, Sarah, Ade and Liam.

XX

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John

Of Burntwood.

Passed away peacefully at his home after a long illness on November 17, 2017, with Family at his side, aged 73 years.

The devoted Husband of Yvonne, also beloved Dad, Grandad, Great-Grandad, Brother, Father-in-law and Friend.

Service will be held at St John's Church, Walsall Wood on Wednesday, December 6 at 2.15pm.

All inquiries to

MAGUIRE
Family Funeral Directors
Brindley House
75 Broadhurst Green
Hednesford
01543 879864

SMITH

Doris May

Sadly passed away Tuesday, November 21, age 98.

Sadly missed by Daughter, Grandchildren, Great-Grandchildren and Great-Great-Granddaughter, Family and Friends.

Funeral will be held on December 13, 10am, at Brereton Methodist Chapel, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium.

Donations if so desired for Alzheimer's Society c/o Co-op Funeral Directors, Rugeley.

STUDLEY

Doris Lena

Beloved Wife of Kenneth, loving Mom of Steve, Carol, Stuart, Susan, Philip and Partners, Grandchildren and Great-Grandchildren.

Peacefully passed away on Thursday, November 16, 2017, aged 89 years.

Funeral Service on Tuesday, December 5, 2017, at St Aiden's Church, at 1pm, followed by Committal at Stafford Crematorium, 2pm.

Friends and Neighbours welcome.

Donations forwarded to Air Ambulance.

Family flowers only c/o

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In Memoriam

EVANS

Vera

November 29.

Time doesn't heal.

We love and miss you more each day.

From Dick, Lynn, Von and Rich and Families.

EVANS

Vera

Auntie Vee

Loving and kind,

remembered with love.

Maureen and Tony.

EVANS

Vera

Lovingly remembered always.

Thinking of you always.

Lots of love, Ann and Richard, Joycelyn and Ken, John and Gwen.

Acknowledgements

ARCHER

Winifred Mary

Winnie

Margaret, Michael and Janet would like to thank all special Friends and Family that helped celebrate Winnie's life.

Thanks to Reverend Christopher Parkes for his support and lovely Service.

To Ralph and all Staff at A.J. Sellman for their support and immaculate attention to detail.

Also, The Barns for the reception that was very much appreciated.

Donations raised for St. Giles Hospice totalled £215.

Thank you all so much.

HOLLOWAY

Patricia Anne

Pat

The Husband and Family of Pat would like to thank all Family and Friends for their flowers and kind donations.

Also, thanks to the Paramedics and The Heart Unit at New Cross Hospital, Wolverhampton.

Thank you also, to A. J. Sellmans, Alison, Jackie and Glen (Planty) for a caring Service.

Thank you to the Reverend Morris Price.

1

Family

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4
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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with its Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree. Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

BABY BUDGIE, with cage and all accessories £40.
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5
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Business Opportunities

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6
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Overseas Property

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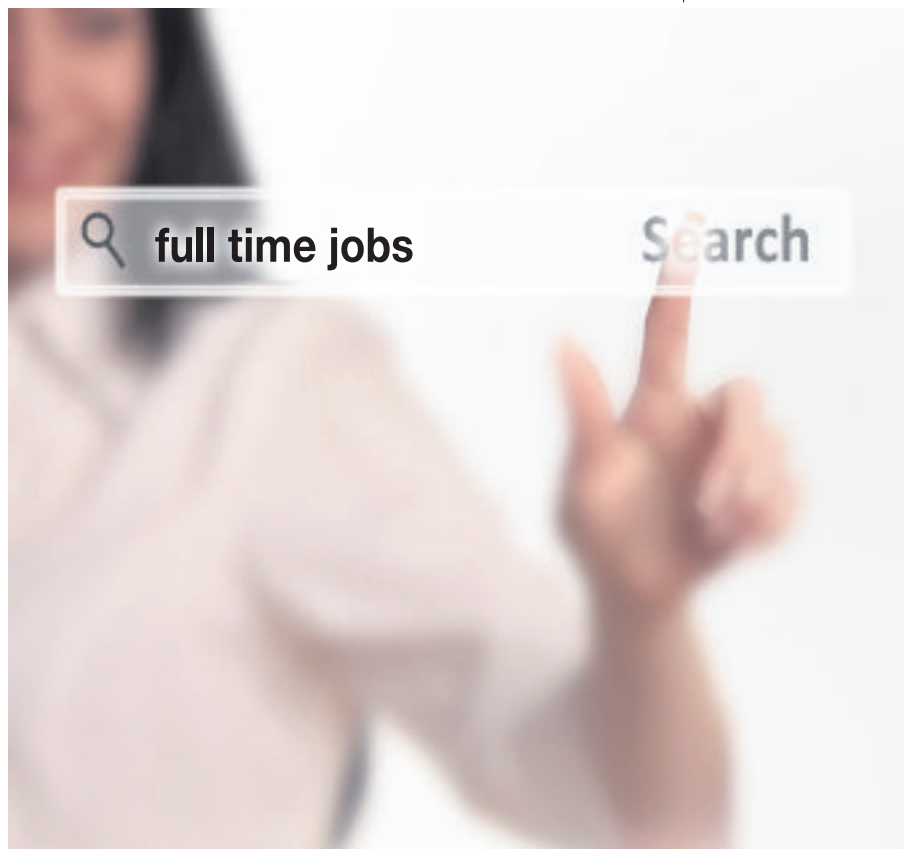
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7
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9 Local Information

Public Notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

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or email **marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk**
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

FREDERICK OLIVER WALKER (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of 66 Wolverhampton Road Wedges Mills Cannock Staffordshire WS11 1SX, who died on 04/04/2017 are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 09/02/2018, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

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TS17444

Licensing Act 2003 NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO VARY A PREMISES LICENCE
An application to vary a premises licence has been made by William Douglas Wilkinson to South Staffordshire District Council in respect of premises known as Shoal Hill Tavern, Sandy Lane, Cannock, Staffordshire WS11 1RF. The application is as follows: Monday to Sunday every day of the year unless the day is specifically extended.
1. Retail sale of alcohol 0900-0100 hours extended to 0200 hours Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve
2. Plays, Films, indoor sporting events, live music, performance of dance or anything of a similar nature- 0900 -0100 hours
3. Recorded 0900 - 0100 hours extended to 0200 hours Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve
4. Late Night Refreshment 2300-0100 hours extended to 0200 hours Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve
5. Premises open to the public 0900 -0130 every day of the year extended to 0230 Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve.
Any representation by responsible authorities or any other person regarding the application must be made in writing to The Licensing Officer, South Staffordshire District Council, Wolverhampton Road, Codall, Staffordshire WV8 1PX by the 20th December 2017.
Persons wishing to view the application may do so by contacting the licensing unit on 01902 666250 email: licensing@staffs.gov.uk
It is an offence liable on summary conviction of a fine up to level 5 (£5,000) on the standard scale to knowingly or recklessly make a false statement in connection with the application.
Dated: 22nd November 2017

PUBLIC NOTICE



THE COUNCIL IS TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING PLANNING PROPOSALS

Case Officer - Claire Faulkner
Location: 22 Market Place, Cannock
CH/17/432 - Installation of 2 No. external air conditioning units to side elevation

Case Officer - Richard Sunter
Location: Pye Green Valley between Greenheath Road and Cannock Road, Hednesford
CH/17/389 - Application to vary condition 26 to substitute plot house types to incorporate revised housing mix and to remove condition 25 which required revised drawings to be submitted in respect to the apartment block of planning permission CH/14/0268 - Amended Site Boundary to include the whole estate

All applications may be inspected electronically at the Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock.

Applications relating to Rugeley and Brereton may also be inspected by paper file at the Rugeley Area Housing Office, Anson Street, Rugeley.

The Council has published a Service Charter for publicity and information about planning applications and a Code of Conduct for the Planning Process both of which are obtainable from Council Offices free of charge.

If you wish to make comments or representations about any of the above proposals you should do so in writing to the Planning Services Manager, Civic Centre, Beecroft Road, Cannock, WS11 1BG or by emailing to developmentcontrol@cannockchasedc.gov.uk by 21/12/2017 Please include a daytime telephone number in your reply and quote the appropriate reference when calling or writing.

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10 Personals

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Book on boss Taylor set for publication

THE biography of the former Villa, Wolves and England boss Graham Taylor was being released this week. Sir Elton John has provided the foreword for the book, Graham Taylor: In His Own Words, which was going on sale today (Thursday). Published by Peloton, it is available as a hardback, priced £19.99

Taylor, who passed away aged 72 in January, had been working on the publication since 2014 with journalist Lionel Birnie. It was completed with support from Taylor's family. His widow Rita said it had been a 'very important' project for him.

The book covers Taylor's playing days at Grimsby Town and Lincoln City and into his managerial career, guiding Watford from the Fourth Division to the top flight, on to Villa and then as national boss. It goes on to cover England's failure to qualify for the 1994 World Cup, and the impact of subsequent press coverage on his family – before restoring his reputation as club boss with spells at Wolves and back at Watford.

Mayor leads pitch as 3G facilities unveiled

THE Mayor Sandwell was officially unveiling two 3G artificial grass pitches at the George Salter Academy this week. Councillor Ahmadul Haque was launching the facilities yesterday (Wednesday).

The project was made possible thanks to a £462,000 grant from the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund, which is delivered by the Football Foundation. The pitches will replace two existing sand-dressed AGPs, which were in poor condition due to age, with new floodlit all-weather playing surfaces.

They will not only benefit the Academy's students, but also partner clubs Tantany Lions FC and Greets Green Albion FC who train and play there and are expected to introduce 14 new teams collectively.

Founded in 2000, the Football Foundation is the largest sports charity in the UK funded by the Premier League, The FA and Government, via Sport England. It develops new and refurbished facilities in order to improve the quality and experience of playing sport at grassroots level.

Captain at double in England success

SKIPPER Steph Houghton led by example as England Women roared to a 4-0 World Cup qualifying success over Bosnia & Herzegovina at Walsall's Banks's Stadium last Friday night.

Houghton netted twice in front of a sell-out crowd, with Manchester City team-mate Nikita Parris and Chelsea's Fran Kirby also on target.

A first victory for caretaker boss Mo Marley kept England hot on the heels of Group One leaders Wales ahead of Tuesday's game against Kazakhstan at Colchester.

Houghton headed England into a 19th-minute lead following Alex Greenwood's corner. England's Barcelona striker Toni Duggan was denied by the woodwork and Danielle Carter squandered a golden chance.

Less than a minute into the second period, Duggan set up Parris to make it 2-0. Houghton fired her second direct from a 54th-minute free-kick and after Aida Hadzic fouled Carter in the area, Kirby completed the scoring from the penalty spot.



Morgan Gibbs-White played a key role in England's under-17s' World Cup triumph

How Ron also played his part for World Cup heroes



Getting stuck in – Wolves legend Ron Flowers, right, in action

WOLVES youngster Morgan Gibbs-White played a key role as England's under-17s spectacularly triumphed at last month's World Cup.

The winger netted against the USA in the quarter-finals before scoring again in the final as the Three Lions came from behind to hammer Spain 5-2.

It's a result that has led to England fans dreaming the young starlets may one day replicate their form for the senior side. And it seems whenever the national side does triumph on the world stage, a Wolves player is at the heart of it.

Of course, England's one and only major tournament win came at the World Cup on home turf in 1966. And while Wolves legend Ron Flowers didn't kick a ball in anger at that tournament, he certainly played his part.

Spotted as a teenager by scouts while playing for Doncaster Rovers, Flowers joined Wolves in 1952.

Convince

Initially boss Stan Cullis had to convince Ron's father Jack to allow him to sign – with his dad preferring his son stayed in Yorkshire to continue an apprenticeship with train firm LNER Locomotive.

But Ron and Stan got their way and for the next 15 years Flowers became integral to a Wolves side that enjoyed huge success.

Playing at either wing-half or centre-half, he formed an outstanding partnership with Peter Broadbent. And that formed the bedrock of the Wolves teams that won the League Championship in 1954, 1958 and 1959, as well as the FA Cup in 1960.

In total, Flowers made 512 appearances for the club between 1952 and 1967, scoring 37 goals – putting him sixth in the club's all-time list of appearance makers.

His form in gold and black also allowed him to shine on the international stage.

In 49 appearances for England, Flowers scored 10 goals and played in the 1962 World Cup.

But in an exclusive interview he said there was a particular reason why he was included in Sir Alf Ramsey's triumphant squad in 1966.

As the oldest member of the group, Flowers revealed

SPORTING FEATURE

By Joseph Masi

"As far as I had been concerned, my England career was finished. I hadn't been expecting the call."

he was there to set an example. "I was there to do a job," he said.

"As far as I had been concerned, my England career was finished. I hadn't been expecting the call."

Flowers also came a whisker away from playing in the biggest game in English football.

Before the final in 1966, Jack Charlton had told Ramsey he was struggling with a cold. And that prompted the boss to put Flowers on stand-by.

"The message was, be ready," explains Flowers.

"It was not, as you might expect however, the cause of any nerves, or indeed a restless night. It didn't make any difference to my thinking.

Private

"I knew whatever he might have come down with, he would play.

"Do you really think Jack Charlton was going to miss out on the World Cup final because of a cold?"

"It would have needed to have been one heck of a cold."

In those days, players who didn't play in the final didn't receive a winner's medal.

But Flowers' role in England's greatest achievement would eventually be acknowledged.

In 2009, Prime Minister Gordon Brown invited all 10 players who missed out to Downing Street for a private reception.

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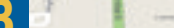
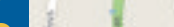
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Lee presses on with title ambitions

A PSYCHIATRIC nurse from Rugeley broke the West Midlands bench press record three times en route to the qualifying for the British championships.

Lee Smith, aged 45, who works at Stafford's St George's Hospital, became the West Midlands and British Bench Press champion in 2015 and finished second in the world championships in Telford that same year. Smith, who attends Garth's Gym, in Power Station Road, took a break from competing, but decided to enter last weekend's West Midlands Masters Bench Press Championships at Hatchford Brook in Sutton Coldfield.



Lee Smith, 45

The tournament acted as a qualifier for the 2018 British championships in West-on-super-Mare. Smith's body weight was 100kg (15st 7lb). He bench pressed and broke the West Midlands record three times, finishing with a lift of 170kg, (26st 7lb). He now holds the West Midlands title and will take his place in Somerset in February.

● A young kickboxer has set his sights on the Irish Open in March and is looking for sponsorship.

Leo Manifold, aged 12, trains with EHMAA in Hednesford twice a week and has been selected for the elite World Organisation for Martial Arts Athletes fight team. To offer sponsorship get in touch at: contact@ehmma.co.uk or call 07875074446, reference Leo.

Scholars put the game to bed with three first half goals

Chasetown 3 Bedworth 1
DOMINANT Chasetown stormed to victory in Evo-Stik League Division One South.

The Scholars took a seventh-minute lead when makeshift right-back Chris Baker advanced from outside the box and his shot took a slight deflection past goalkeeper Dan Crane.

Bedworth struck the post and had an effort cleared off the line by the head of Mike O'Reilly before the home side doubled their lead in the 20th minute. Danny Cocks was pushed to the ground and Jack Langston converted the spot-kick.

On the stroke of half-time, Chasetown made it 3-0. Jake Lovatt teed up Cocks, he fired a shot against the angle of post and bar, but slipped the rebound to Muzzy Nduna, who drilled home beneath the former Hednesford Town goalkeeper Crane.

Bedworth pulled one back three minutes from the end with Ryan Smith scoring from the edge of the penalty box.

Scholars travel to Carlton for a league game on Saturday.

Saddlers players deliver in school visit



Players Devlin and Guthrie with Paul Larvin

TWO Saddlers defenders dropped in on a Cannock school for a Premier League Primary stars session.

Jon Guthrie and Nicky Devlin visited Redhill Primary to deliver their final lesson of an eight-week course focusing on Premier League Primary Stars' key values.

The players spoke about their experience of these as footballers, as well as answering questions, presenting certificates and signing autographs for the Year 4 pupils. Devlin said: "To

come and see the impact that the Premier League Primary Stars programme has had on the kids has been brilliant. I really enjoyed it."

Guthrie added: "I've enjoyed it and you can see the impact Premier League Primary Stars is having on the kids."

Community manager Paul Larvin led the sessions at Redhill. He said: "The players have been fantastic. The children have really responded well to having them in school and they've managed to ask lots of really great questions."

CLUB PROUD OF TALENTED DUO

RYU Shotokan Karate Club have two exceptional young talents on their hands in Daniel Eccles and Coni Mae Cartwright.

Eccles, a 16-year-old from Dudley, has been training at the club – which runs classes in Cannock and Stafford – for three years.

He has been selected to represent England at the European Championships in Russia in February.

Cartwright, 10, from Cannock, has won the English Championship and the British Championship this year – and took gold at the Banzai Cup, held in Germany. In recognition of her extraordinary achievements, she was named Aspiring Athlete at the Sport Across Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Awards.

Next

Club coach Mike Carr said: "I have had Coni Mae here for three years and Dan for two years, and this kind of success is what we have always strived for."

"We have got about 40 students over two classes – one in Cannock, one in Stafford. "The majority that we have here are kids aged six to 10 – the next generation."

Eccles, who goes to Dudley College, got involved in karate at the age of nine. Cartwright, who turned 10 on Sunday, has amassed 16 gold medals in her short time competing.

"Dan is the first England representative at the club," said Carr. "It's fantastic for Coni Mae as well. She won the English title at the start of the year and we just built on that."

Ryu Shotokan's classes are open to all ages and abilities. Sessions are held three times a week – Tuesday and Thursdays at Active Arts in Stafford, and Saturdays at Nuffield Health in East Cannock Road, Cannock.

For information on how to get involved at the club, email ryushotokankarate@hotmail.com



Flying the flag – Coni Mae Cartwright from Cannock was named Aspiring Athlete

Festive cheer with Keys Park carol concert

A POPULAR Christmas carol concert takes place at Keys Park again next week.

Hednesford Town Football Club Supporters Association, in partnership with the Pitmen, is staging the event on Monday, from 7pm. Hednesford Town players, students from St Peter's Primary School and Staffordshire University Academy

will all be in attendance along with the Hednesford Salvation Army Band.

Entry is free and arrival can be made from 6.30pm.

On the field, Pitmen were in action on Tuesday night, entertaining Newcastle Town in the Integro League Cup. On Saturday they host Farsley Celtic.

The draw for the quarter-fi-

nals of the Staffordshire Senior Cup will see the Pitmen or Lichfield City handed an away tie at either Newcastle Town or Sporting Khalsa.

The Hednesford/Lichfield clash is at Keys Park on December 12, at 7.45pm.

The club has also announced that midfielder Checkaine Steele has departed Keys Park.

Comeback win is first of campaign

Cannock L1s 1 Stourport 4
CANNOCK found themselves 2-0 down early doors from two short corners. The third came from a breakaway before Jodie Beddow scored. Stourport converted a penalty stroke in the last 10 minutes.

Cannock L2s 2 Stourport 1
AFTER a goalless first half, Stourport scored first, but Cannock hit back through Tabitha Burroughs and Lucy Spencer for their first win of the season.

Cannock L3s 2 Burton 0
JENNA Martin and Alice Runton scored the goals past the experienced Burton keeper.

Cannock L4s 0 Stafford L2s 10
A BAD day at the office for the ladies' fourths, but the scoreline doesn't reflect the effort put in.

Cannock L5s 1 Lichfield 8
ANOTHER scoreline that did not reflect the efforts. Sam Watts was the Cannock goalscorer.

Cannock M3s 2 Notts University 2
NOTTS Uni took a two-goal lead, but Cannock fought back through two Ed Martin goals.

Cannock M4s 1 Warwick 4
THIS was a game of two halves as Warwick scored four in the first period. But Cannock claimed a 1-0 after the interval thanks to a Luke Stacey goal from a short corner.

Cannock M5s 1 Bridgnorth 1
BRIDGNORTH took the lead right on half-time, but, after Cannock levelled, no team was able to find the winner.

Bowls day also in memory of son Mel

THE 2018 Easter Monday bowls classic at Chads Moor Progressive Working Men's Club will be named in memory of Mel Evans as well as his father Les, whose name the competition has taken for 37 consecutive years.

With £2,000 total prize money on offer, the competition will be held on April 2, starting at 10.30am. The eventual winner will receive a first prize of £500 and hold the trophy for 12 months.

Sponsorship details have now been finalised, and invitations are set to go out to players within the next few days.

More details, including the field, will follow when invitations are accepted.

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Cannock & Rugeley

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